[illegible]seur's Collection

of United States Gold Rarities

January 31, 1989

PRICES REALIZED

Gross Prices Realized $4,803,683.50

Lot 142
Realized $214,500.00

Lot 146
Realized $198,000.00

Lot 148
Realized $198,000.00

A Connoisseur's Collection

of United States Gold Rarities

January 31, 1989

Lawrence Goldberg
Ira Goldberg
Mark Goldberg

Sold by

Superior Galleries

A Division of Superior Stamp & Coin., Inc.
9478 West Olympic Boulevard • Beverly Hills, California 90212-4299
Telephone: (213) 203-9855 • FAX: (213) 203-0496 • Toll Free: (800) 421-0754
California Auction Company License Number 122 • Mark Goldberg License Number 106 • Ira Goldberg License Number 123

A Connoisseur's Collection Sale

LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID
1	17600.00	87	17600.00	173	1540.00	259	14300.00	345	19800.00	431	1980.00
2	6600.00	88	5775.00	174	2420.00	260	17600.00	346	3960.00	432	1375.00
3	2970.00	89	1210.00	175	2310.00	261	11000.00	347	11550.00	433	797.50
4	1265.00	90	20900.00	176	2200.00	262	3630.00	348	5775.00	434	742.50
5	44000.00	91	7150.00	177	2310.00	263	1265.00	349	3520.00	435	1155.00
6	5060.00	92	1320.00	178	1430.00	264	14300.00	350	6875.00	436	462.00
7	6875.00	93	16500.00	179	1980.00	265	3740.00	351	12650.00	437	935.00
8	12100.00	94	3520.00	180	14850.00	266	3520.00	352	15400.00	438	687.50
9	16500.00	95	632.50	181	1485.00	267	5775.00	353	7150.00	439	770.00
10	3520.00	96	17050.00	182	4180.00	268	3080.00	354	37400.00	440	825.00
11	5280.00	97	11000.00	183	1430.00	269	7150.00	355	7260.00	441	990.00
12	42900.00	98	5775.00	184	1430.00	270	8250.00	356	12100.00	442	770.00
13	33000.00	99	46200.00	185	3190.00	271	577.50	357	27500.00	443	825.00
14	2970.00	100	1595.00	186	3080.00	272	8525.00	358	11550.00	444	462.00
15	41800.00	101	1100.00	187	3190.00	273	35200.00	359	14850.00	445	1650.00
16	12100.00	102	1100.00	188	3080.00	274	24200.00	360	2145.00	446	1595.00
17	12650.00	103	2860.00	189	3025.00	275	8250.00	361	198.00	447	1045.00
18	6050.00	104	2695.00	190	3080.00	276	3190.00	362	165.00	448	2860.00
19	3080.00	105	1155.00	191	3080.00	277	7700.00	363	187.00	449	2530.00
20	16500.00	106	1155.00	192	3190.00	278	4620.00	364	577.50	450	1760.00
21	7425.00	107	632.50	193	3080.00	279	1210.00	365	4400.00	451	1155.00
22	3850.00	108	1155.00	194	3080.00	280	4840.00	366	198.00	452	1210.00
23	15400.00	109	1155.00	195	1375.00	281	2310.00	367	15950.00	453	1595.00
24	2200.00	110	1100.00	196	1265.00	282	2970.00	368	852.50	454	1210.00
25	11000.00	111	46200.00	197	1347.50	283	1320.00	369	577.50	455	1265.00
26	8250.00	112	52800.00	198	1292.50	284	1320.00	370	1100.00	456	797.50
27	25300.00	113	27500.00	199	1375.00	285	5280.00	371	187.00	457	797.50
28	26400.00	114	60500.00	200	1485.00	286	1375.00	372	1320.00	458	880.00
29	22000.00	115	22000.00	201	1292.50	287	9350.00	373	660.00	459	528.00
30	11000.00	116	46200.00	202	1265.00	288	6050.00	374	660.00	460	990.00
31	5060.00	117	24750.00	203	742.50	289	3960.00	375	1540.00	461	1045.00
32	25300.00	118	41800.00	204	797.50	290	1650.00	376	990.00	462	1375.00
33	15950.00	119	11000.00	205	797.50	291	1375.00	377	1045.00	463	880.00
34	4620.00	120	9075.00	206	5225.00	292	1650.00	378	13200.00	464	1540.00
35	8800.00	121	11000.00	207	3520.00	293	3960.00	379	11550.00	465	1760.00
36	4620.00	122	19800.00	208	2860.00	294	7700.00	380	1870.00	466	880.00
37	26400.00	123	9350.00	209	742.50	295	14300.00	381	1980.00	467	632.50
38	18700.00	124	39600.00	210	2860.00	296	1430.00	382	935.00	468	528.00
39	4620.00	125	41800.00	211	2970.00	297	3740.00	383	11000.00	469	660.00
40	9900.00	126	50600.00	212	1320.00	298	1155.00	384	1100.00	470	935.00
41	4180.00	127	1980.00	213	3960.00	299	2200.00	385	6600.00	471	1595.00
42	13750.00	128	1980.00	214	2915.00	300	3300.00	386	3520.00	472	660.00
43	27500.00	129	1925.00	215	2860.00	301	6600.00	387	374.00	473	528.00
44	9350.00	130	4730.00	216	2860.00	302	3080.00	388	8800.00	474	3520.00
45	3740.00	131	577.50	217	1292.50	303	3190.00	389	242.00	475	1320.00
46	8250.00	132	4730.00	218	9350.00	304	2530.00	390	6600.00	476	2970.00
47	9350.00	133	4840.00	219	10010.00	305	93500.00	391	825.00	477	2420.00
48	3740.00	134	1980.00	220	6325.00	306	770.00	392	4840.00	478	1540.00
49	14850.00	135	12100.00	221	2530.00	307	742.50	393	1100.00	479	1430.00
50	14850.00	136	25850.00	222	25300.00	308	1760.00	394	1375.00	480	990.00
51	13750.00	137	3410.00	223	20900.00	309	4620.00	395	605.00	481	1210.00
52	8250.00	138	22000.00	224	11000.00	310	7425.00	396	16500.00	482	880.00
53	2970.00	139	3410.00	225	7425.00	311	990.00	397	6875.00	483	770.00
54	14300.00	140	11000.00	226	5390.00	312	2200.00	398	4400.00	484	2090.00
55	14850.00	141	11000.00	227	4400.00	313	2090.00	399	3740.00	485	1485.00
56	8800.00	142	214500.00	228	2310.00	314	23100.00	400	1320.00	486	797.50
57	8800.00	143	6875.00	229	7150.00	315	9350.00	401	14300.00	487	1540.00
58	8085.00	144	4620.00	230	4840.00	316	11000.00	402	2310.00	488	935.00
59	8800.00	145	41800.00	231	6325.00	317	8800.00	403	506.00	489	770.00
60	5280.00	146	198000.00	232	6325.00	318	1980.00	404	4180.00	490	1320.00
61	14300.00	147	1980.00	233	19800.00	319	8800.00	405	8250.00	491	1265.00
62	13200.00	148	198000.00	234	7975.00	320	2200.00	406	2970.00	492	825.00
63	4620.00	149	4620.00	235	10450.00	321	2310.00	407	880.00	493	15950.00
64	6325.00	150	4180.00	236	5500.00	322	2310.00	408	484.00	494	990.00
65	5500.00	151	4180.00	237	3630.00	323	4400.00	409	2310.00	495	880.00
66	20900.00	152	4180.00	238	3520.00	324	2090.00	410	1265.00	496	770.00
67	12100.00	153	4180.00	239	41800.00	325	176.00	411	1320.00	497	2420.00
68	14300.00	154	4180.00	240	7975.00	326	13750.00	412	1155.00	498	2750.00
69	4840.00	155	1650.00	241	935.00	327	198.00	413	5775.00	499	2365.00
70	6050.00	156	1595.00	242	8250.00	328	187.00	414	1320.00	500	2860.00
71	4840.00	157	1595.00	243	4180.00	329	484.00	415	990.00	501	1485.00
72	23100.00	158	39600.00	244	1100.00	330	11000.00	416	484.00	502	1100.00
73	4840.00	159	3520.00	245	13200.00	331	2640.00	417	44000.00	503	1650.00
74	13200.00	160	2640.00	246	2970.00	332	220.00	418	1045.00	504	1540.00
75	13750.00	161	2640.00	247	4840.00	333	2530.00	419	40700.00	505	1210.00
76	8250.00	162	2860.00	248	4730.00	334	3300.00	420	1265.00	506	1375.00
77	7975.00	163	2585.00	249	27500.00	335	2310.00	421	660.00	507	1100.00
78	7975.00	164	1430.00	250	7150.00	336	797.50	422	5500.00	508	1540.00
79	5060.00	165	1210.00	251	1320.00	337	4180.00	423	715.00	509	1375.00
80	39600.00	166	1045.00	252	990.00	338	39600.00	424	528.00	510	742.50
81	25850.00	167	13750.00	253	4180.00	339	29700.00	425	1980.00	511	715.00
82	2860.00	168	8250.00	254	1210.00	340	26400.00	426	17600.00	512	742.50
83	12100.00	169	4950.00	255	2530.00	341	44000.00	427	1485.00	513	742.50
84	8800.00	170	1485.00	256	10450.00	342	29700.00	428	1320.00	514	990.00
85	11550.00	171	1430.00	257	13750.00	343	7700.00	429	797.50	515	1760.00
86	13200.00	172	1485.00	258	2310.00	344	24200.00	430	35750.00	516	1045.00

Prices Realized include some lots reacquired by consignors. All prices include the 10% Buyer's Fee.

A Connoisseur's Collection Sale

LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID
517	825.00	524	1375.00	531	1045.00	538	3520.00	545	26400.00	552	3520.00
518	797.50	525	1980.00	532	3190.00	539	3960.00	546	2970.00	553	3520.00
519	880.00	526	8250.00	533	1375.00	540	5775.00	547	5500.00	554	440.00
520	797.50	527	715.00	534	27500.00	541	44000.00	548	2200.00	555	33000.00
521	770.00	528	1650.00	535	12650.00	542	33000.00	549	2200.00	556	18700.00
522	742.50	529	1375.00	536	2420.00	543	30250.00	550	2200.00		
523	3190.00	530	1100.00	537	3300.00	544	27500.00	551	880.00		

Prices Realized include some lots reacquired by consignors. All prices include the 10% Buyer's Fee.

A CONNOISSEUR'S COLLECTION
of United States Gold Rarities

A CONNOISSEUR'S COLLECTION

OF UNITED STATES GOLD RARITIES

Auction and Mail Bid Sale

JANUARY 31, 1989

Tuesday

JANUARY 31, 1989

at 6:30 pm

Lots 1 - 556

SUPERIOR GALLERIES

California Auction Company • License Number 122
Mark Goldberg • License Number 106
Ira Goldberg • License Number 123

Superior Galleries

A Division of Superior Stamp & Coin Co., Inc.
9478 West Olympic Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California 90212-4299
Telephone: (213) 203-9855; Toll Free: (800) 421-0754; FAX: (213) 203-0496

Price: $20.00

© Superior Stamp & Coin Co., Inc. 1989

TERMS OF SALE

1. This is an unrestricted auction and mail bid sale conducted by Superior Galleries (SUPERIOR). Subject to SUPERIOR'S consent, all persons, including consignors SUPERIOR, and its principals may bid on any lot.

2. A Buyer's Commission of ten percent (10%) on each individual lot will be added to all purchases made by all bidders except consignors, regardless of bidder's affiliation with any group or organization, and will be based upon the total amount of the final bid. THE BUYER'S COMMISSION WILL BE ADDED TO ALL INVOICES except for reacquisitions by Consignors in which case a reacquisition charge may apply.

3. All material shall be sold in separate lots to the highest bidder. If any dispute arises during or immediately after the sale of a lot, the Auctioneer shall have the right to rescind the lot sale and put it up for sale again. In all cases, Auctioneer's decision shall be final. For the bidder's protection, no "unlimited" or "buy" bids will be accepted.

4. Auction sales are strictly cash in U.S. funds payable through a bank in the United States. Lots must be paid for upon the sooner of receipt of invoice or delivery. NO CREDIT CARD PURCHASES WILL BE ACCEPTED. Bids will not be accepted from those persons under eighteen (18) years of age without a parent's written consent which acknowledges the terms and conditions of sale herein.

5. By bidding in this sale, bidder personally guarantees payment. If a corporation is bidder, the officers and / or principals of the corporation agree to personally guarantee payment.

6. Floor bidders and mail bidders who have not established credit with SUPERIOR must furnish satisfactory credit references or deposit at least twenty-five percent (25%) of their total bids for that session(s) or such other amounts as SUPERIOR may require before such bids will be accepted. Deposits submitted will be applied to purchases and any unused portion of such deposit will be promptly refunded.

7. Bids must be for an entire lot and each lot constitutes a separate sale. No lot will be broken up. Lots will be sold in their numbered sequence unless Auctioneer directs otherwise.

8. This is not an approval sale. All lots sold to the highest bidder as determined by Auctioneer are final. Floor bidders are encouraged to carefully examine all lots which they are interested in purchasing since NO LOT PURCHASED BY A FLOOR BIDDER MAY BE RETURNED, including those lots where the bidder is acting as agent for another, or to mail bidders who have examined the lot.

9. a. All items offered in this catalogue are guaranteed to be genuine. Claims to the contrary must be made in writing within ten (10) days after receipt of material.
   b. No lot may be returned without prior written consent.
   c. Questions regarding the minting of a coin as a proof or as a business strike relate to the method of manufacture and not to authenticity.
   d. If a lot is to be returned, it must be housed in its original, sealed and unopened container.
   e. Late remittance constitutes just cause for revocation of all return priviledges for any reason.
   f. In no event may any lot be returned after thirty (30) days from the date of the sale.

10. Auctioneer reserves the right to open the lot at a reasonable price and to withdraw any lot at any time.

11. When identical bids are received by SUPERIOR for a lot, preference is given to the first bid received. A mail bid will take precedence over an identical floor bid; a floor bidder must bid higher than the highest mail bid to be awarded any lot. Auctioneer reserves the right to refuse any bid at his sole discretion.

12. Auctioneer cannot be responsible for errors in bidding. Please make certain that you bid on the correct lot and that your bid is the maximum (plus the ten percent (10%) Buyer's Commission) that you are willing and able to pay.

13. Sales tax, if required by law to be collected, postage and insurance plus the ten percent (10%) Buyer's Commission, will be added to the invoice for any lot(s) that is invoiced to successful bidders. All lots delivered in the State of California are subject to local sales tax. Individuals purchasing lots for resale must submit an exemption certificate signed by the purchaser or his agent and recognized by the State of California, with their current seller's permit number, or be subject to the local tax.

14. Title to any lot remains with CONSIGNOR until the lot is paid for in full. SUPERIOR reserves the right to require payment in full before delivering any lot to the successful bidder. It is the buyer's responsibility and obligation to have the lots fully insured while in his / her possession. Risk of loss is on the buyer.

15. In the event a successful bidder fails to make payment when due, SUPERIOR reserves the right to resell the merchandise and bidder agrees to pay for the reasonable cost of such a sale and also to pay any difference between the resale price and the previously successful bid.

16. Buyer agrees that any claim or controversy arising out of, or relating to the formation, interpretation or performance of these terms and underlying transactions or the breach thereof, is subject to binding arbitration in accordance with the rules of the Professional Numismatists Guild, except for any claim or controversy arising out of non-payment which may be referred to judicial proceedings at the option of SUPERIOR. Arbitration or judicial proceedings shall take place within the County of Los Angeles subject to the laws of the State of California.

17. If the auction invoice is not paid for in full when due per invoice terms, the unpaid balance will bear interest at the highest rate permitted by law until it is paid. If the matter is referred to an attorney for collection, bidder agrees to pay all attorney fees, court costs and other collection costs incurred by SUPERIOR. The courts of Los Angeles County, California, shall have exclusive jurisdiction and venue over any suit initiated by SUPERIOR to collect past due invoices and that the service of process by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested, shall be sufficient to confer "in personam" jurisdiction over bidder.

18. All photographs in this catalogue are of the actual coins, medals or currency being sold but may not be actual size.

19. SUPERIOR reserves the right to postpone the auction sale or any session thereof for a reasonable period of time.

20. Neither SUPERIOR nor the Auctioneer shall be responsible for incidental or consequential damages arising out of any failure of the terms and conditions of the auction and sale or the conduct thereof and in no event shall liability for any such failure exceed the purchase price paid.

21. Coins described with a grade by a Grading Service represents the opinion of that Grading Service and does not necessarily represent the opinion of the Auction Company and are offered here on an "as is" basis and not subject to return by any mail bidder or floor bidder.

22. Superior shall not be bound by any prior, or subsequent opinion, determination or certification by any grading service and such lots are sold under the condition that any claims to the contrary regarding grading, authenticity or methods of manufacture must be made in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of material. The descriptions contained herein represent the cataloguer's opinion or the opinion of a Grading Service where indicated as to the state of preservation and strike. No representation or warrantee is provided that lots purchased from this sale will meet the criteria for submission to any grading service.

23. Bidding in this sale constitutes acceptance by the bidder of all the foregoing terms and conditions of sale.

Grading is an art and not a science. The grades herein represent our opinion based on our experience. Therefore, it is possible that two people will not always grade the same item alike. Also, as market conditions change, grading standards change, and may continue to do so in the future. Your examination of the item(s) should be the criterion and not the grade represented by another. In any purchase or sale, the value of the item(s) is determined by the price.

ORDER OF SALE

Tuesday evening
JANUARY 31, 1989

Professional Coin Grading Service Certified Coins

Gold Dollars 1-79
Quarter Eagles 80-110
Three Dollar Gold 111-124
Half Eagles 125-139
Eagles 140-157
Double Eagles 158-217
Commemorative Gold 218-238

Non-Certified Coins

Gold Dollars 239-302
Quarter Eagles 303-336
Three Dollar Gold 337-350
Four Dollar Gold 351
Half Eagles 352-389
Eagles 390-424
Double Eagles 425-535
Commemorative Gold 536-554
Territorial Gold 555-556

NOTICE OF EXHIBITION

LOT VIEWING

Lots for
A CONNOISSEUR'S COLLECTION
of United States Gold Rarities
Auction and Mail Bid Sale

will be available for viewing
at our offices and headquarters
MONDAY, DECEMBER 19th through TUESDAY, JANUARY 31st

Lot Viewing
is by appointment only Monday through Saturday
Monday through Friday 9:00 am through 5:00 pm
Saturdays 9:00 am through 1:00 pm
We will be closed Saturday, December 24th
and Saturday, December 31st
(Appointments are **not necessary** on **sale days**)

It is important that for those who plan to view lot or plan to attend the sale, that you bring your copy of the catalogue with you since additional copies will not be available.

We strongly urge our local clients to view coins
well in advance of the sale dates as we expect
an especially large turn-out for this sale.

Parking

Parking on Sunday is available in our subterranean lot off of Olympic Boulevard. For those attending the Sale, we request that you do not park on El Camino. On Monday and Tuesday, parking is available on Olympic Boulevard from 9:30 to 3:30, and on El Camino for periods not to exceed 2 hours. Limited parking is available in our parking garage for the evening session. Parking regulations are strictly enforced in Beverly Hills. Please consult us if you have any questions.

9478 West Olympic Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California
(213) 203-9855; Toll Free: (800) 421-0754; FAX: (213) 203-0496

INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEW MAIL BIDDERS

If you have never used our mail bid system, here is an explanation. The procedure is quite simple. On the enclosed Mail Bid Form there is space provided for the lot number and the amount you are willing to bid. After carefully reading the description of the lot you wish to bid on, write down the lot number and the maximum amount you are willing to pay. For example, let us assume you are interested in bidding on Lot 1 and the maximum amount you are willing to bid is $350.00, your bid sheet should be as shown on the right.

The bid which you enter is the "maximum amount" or top price that you are willing to pay for a lot (unless you have checked one of the percentage increase boxes). However, there is always the possiblity that you may obtain the lot for less.

Before mailing, check your bid sheet for accuracy. Make certain that you bid on the correct lot and that your bid is the maximum you are willing to pay.

Bidding by mail permits you to participate in the auction as though you were in attendance. Many rarities are obtained through the medium of auctions and it can be a very exciting as well as a rewarding method of obtaining wonderful items for your collection. We look forward to you participating in our sales.

Thank you,
The Auction Department

Superior Galleries

BID SHEET

LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID
1	350.00						
145	300.00						

IMPORTANT NOTICE

A 10% Buyer's Commission will be added to individual lots sold in this sale. This amount is based on the total amount of the final bid and is then added to all invoices.

A CONNOISSEUR'S COLLECTION

DO NOT WRITE IN BOX

CON89

MAIL BID FORM

I hereby authorize SUPERIOR GALLERIES to execute the following bid(s) at the auction to be held January 31, 1989.

Please buy the following lot(s) for me at the price(s) not exceeding those as shown. The bid(s) is made subject to the "Terms of Sale," and I agree to remit promptly on receipt of invoice or notification that the bid(s) is successful. This signed bid sheet constitutes an agreement between me and SUPERIOR GALLERIES.

NAME _____ Place Peel-off Label Here _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SIGNATURE _____ PHONE ( ) _____

REFERENCES: New or unfamiliar bidders, please enclose a 25% deposit of bids or furnish references in sufficient time to be verified before the auction, otherwise, bids will not be executed. To facilitate verification, please include full name, address and zip code. **NUMISMATIC AND / OR PHILATELIC SOCIETY REFERENCES ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO ESTABLISH CREDIT.**

CREDIT REFERENCES:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

☐ I have established credit with Superior.

☐ Deposit on bids enclosed $_____

IF NECESSARY, PLEASE INCREASE MY BID(S) BY:

☐ 10% ☐ 20% ☐ 30% ☐ Other _____%

☐ Prices Realized $2.00 enclosed

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

_____

_____

_____

_____

(Tear along perforation)

BID SHEET

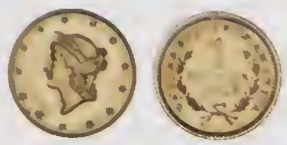
LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID	LOT	BID

A Buyer's Commission of ten (10%) on each individual lot will be added to all purchases made by all bidders and will be based upon the total amount of the final bid. THE BUYER'S COMMISSION WILL BE ADDED TO ALL INVOICES.
We cannot be responsible for errors in bidding. CHECK YOUR BID SHEET CAREFULLY.

COLOR PLATES
for

A CONNOISSEUR'S COLLECTION
of United States Gold Rarities

Plate 1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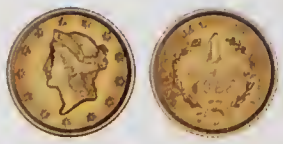
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Plate 2

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Plate 3

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Plate 4

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Plate 5

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Plate 6

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Plate 7

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Plate 8

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Tuesday Evening
January 31, 1989
promptly at 6:30pm in the Auction Gallery
Lots 1 - 556

Gold Dollars

This is easily the finest group of PCGS Gold Dollars ever to be sold at public auction.

Type 1 Gold Dollars are led by the incomparable Eliasberg 1850, which is conservatively graded Mint State 67. This piece is easily the Finest Known 1850 Gold Dollar. Also included are such condition rarities as a Mint State 64 1851-O and a Mint State 65 1853-O; both of which are the highest examples graded by PCGS as of November 1, 1988.

There are two Type 2 Gold Dollars in this section. Both grade Mint State 65, both are superb, sharply struck Gems which are virtually unimprovable.

The Type 3 Gold Dollars must be seen to be believed. The most significant single piece, in terms of rarity, is a Mint State 65 1875 which is one of the Finest Known examples of this celebrated issue. In terms of condition, the Mint State 68 1857 is the star of this group. But, it should be pointed out that there are 12 different pieces graded Mint State 66 and another 8 pieces graded Mint State 67!

The Proofs in this group are also outstanding. Some of the pieces which are in this group include a Proof 64 1858, a Proof 65 1860, a Proof 65 1861, a pair of Proof 65 1865's, a Proof 65 1866, a Proof 64 1876 and numerous Gems from the 1880's.

Gold Dollars, Type 1

GEM 1849 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

1 **1849. Small head, with L. Flat obverse fields. Open Wreath. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** An amazingly sharp strike for this issue, with each of Liberty's hair strands showing individual definition. The surfaces are extremely frosty and possess very attractive light green gold coloring. The surfaces show a few tiny, scattered marks but none of these break deeply into the planchet or are at all obtrusive. While this particular variety is actually somewhat overrated in the lower ranges of Mint State, examples of this quality are genuinely rare. Over the years, the majority of pieces which were saved as souvenirs have been mishandled and pieces which are Gems by today's strict grading standards are extremely difficult to locate. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 2 other pieces Mint State 65.

See Color Plate 1

2 **1849. Small head, without L. Open Wreath. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** One of only 1,000 pieces struck on May 8, 1849. Exceptionally sharp with every fine detail up and bold. The obverse is mostly prooflike with scattered areas of mint frost while the reverse tends towards complete frostiness. Both sides exhibit lovely rich yellow gold coloring. The surfaces are very clean with just a few tiny marks visible below magnification. This piece represents excellent quality for the grade and for this variety as well. This is one of the few Type 1 Gold Dollars which is actually somewhat overrated in Mint State. This is, of course, due to its tiny mintage. It appears that a great number of these pieces were saved as souvenirs. However, in the passing century, many of these were later spent or have been numismatically mishandled. A perusal of recent auction records will show that the great number of Mint State examples of this variety which have been offered are not especially choice. This piece is certainly far above-average and, in this grade, is quite undervalued. As of November 1, 1988, only 4 other pieces were graded Mint State 64 by PCGS with just 2 other pieces graded higher.

3 **1849. Large head. Closed Wreath. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Very sharply struck in rich yellow gold. The obverse is quite frosty while the reverse is a bit more reflective and almost semi-prooflike. Both sides show a few small marks and striations. An absolutely original and very pleasing example which would make a nice type coin.

4 **1849-O. PCGS graded Mint State 62.** A nice, sharp strike for this issue with the portrait showing far less extensive die rust than is usually seen; the borders are sharply defined with much less crumbling and beveling than is often seen as well. Struck in characteristic greenish gold with some pale orange undertones on the reverse. The obverse is extremely Choice while the reverse shows a few light marks at the center. This issue is always popular and in demand as the first New Orleans Gold Dollar. Mint State examples are not extremely rare but are certainly offered for sale with far less frequency than most of the Philadelphia issues of this era. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 3 examples of this date higher than the presently offered specimen.

THE FINEST KNOWN 1850 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

5 **1850. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** Premium quality. While it is difficult for us to conceive of a 67 coin being 'undergraded,' this piece actually offers extremely strong claims to a higher grade as it is virtually perfect. What is most remarkable about this coin is its strike. In fact, we have never seen a Type 1 Gold Dollar—of any date—which was sharper struck than the present specimen. In its last auction appearance, this piece was said to be possibly a "presentation striking." While we do not agree with this, it is understandable why it was termed as such. Adding to the remarkable quality of this piece is its superb satiny lustre and indescribably lovely rich yellow gold coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are nearly flawless with a total absence of marks noted even below magnification. While this date is usually grouped with the 1851, 1852 and 1853 as "common dates," it is actually significantly rarer than either of its three counterparts. In the lower ranges of Mint State, the 1850 Gold Dollar is very scarce although it is not impossible to locate. However, in Mint State 64 this issue becomes very rare and in Mint State 65 it is extremely rare. We are confident that this piece is absolutely the Finest Known; a sentiment shared by Paul Taglione in his work on Gold Dollars. In our opinion, this is one of the most exciting coins in the present offering of Gold Dollars. Here is a piece which truly combines rarity and quality.

Formerly sold as lot 6 in the Eliasberg sale (where it realized $11,000), earlier in the John H. Clapp Collection and, before that, in the famous Matthew A. Stickney Collection when it was sold by Henry Chapman in 1907

6 **1851. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck and frosty with unusually nice coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are a medium green gold with faint rosy overtones. The lustre of this coin is excellent and the surfaces are extremely clean with the only really describable mark located on the reverse to the left of the ribbon. An excellent type coin and a slightly underrated date in this grade as well.

VERY RARE VIRTUAL GEM UNCIRCULATED 1851-O GOLD DOLLAR

7 **1851-O. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A splendid, satiny example with extremely sharp strike for the issue. The centers show absolutely no weakness with both the date and value fully struck; as on almost all known examples of this issue, borders show some flattening. Both the obverse and the reverse are satiny with superb orange gold coloring. A mint-made planchet streak below the bust (and extending to the star at 4 o'clock) serves as clear identification. While this date is reasonably common in circulated grades and not all that difficult to locate even in Mint State 60 to 62, examples of this quality are genuinely rare. As of November 1, 1988, this is the finest 1851-O Gold Dollar to be graded by PCGS. We believe that this piece just misses the tail end of the Condition Census and it is probably the nicest example of this date which will be sold at public auction for a number of years.

GEM 1853

See Color Plate 1

8 **1853. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A lovely Gem example which is 100% fully struck. Both the obverse and the reverse show full details at the centers and on the borders. Both sides are extremely frosty with pale orange green coloring becoming a bit deeper at the reverse edge. The surfaces are extremely clean and vibrant. This is, by a large margin, the most common of all Type 1 Gold Dollars. As such, this particular coin would make an excellent type coin.

RARE GEM 1853-O GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

9 **1853-O. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** An unusual strike for the issue. While the centers are extremely sharp, the borders are somewhat weak; usually, the exact opposite striking characteristics are seen on examples of the date. Somewhat prooflike and with superb deep green gold coloring which deepens toward the peripheries. With the exception of die rust, which is primarily visible on the obverse, the surfaces are virtually free of marks. This is easily the most attractive example of this date which we have seen or sold. The 1853-O Gold Dollar is the most common New Orleans Gold Dollar in higher grades. However, most Mint State examples are of markedly inferior quality and the "typical" specimen is apt to grade no better than Mint State 60. In this grade, the 1853-O is very rare and this piece is among the Finest Known. As of November 1, 1988, this is the highest graded example from PCGS.

Formerly sold as lot 1333 in Auction '81

A SECOND MINT STATE 1853-O GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

10 **1853-O. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Not quite as sharply struck as the last coin, but still a much above-average impression for the date. This piece has superb eye appeal due to rich orange gold coloring on both the obverse and the reverse. The underlying surfaces are satiny and very clean with fewer marks than one would normally expect for a coin of this grade. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded four examples higher than this. As it is unlikely that this piece will command a very strong premium, the sophisticated type collector might seriously consider purchasing it instead of a much more common 1853 Philadelphia Gold Dollar.

Formerly sold as lot 619 in Lester Merkin's Sale of April 18, 1970, where it realized $115. Obviously, this coin is worth considerably more today

See Color Plate 1

11 **1854. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** An extremely Choice coin for the grade with the obverse of full Gem quality. Very sharply struck in pale orange gold with light rosy overtones at the centers. The centers are fully brought-up and no weakness is noted on the rims. There are just a few small marks at the reverse center which are really about the only thing that keep this piece from having been graded higher.

Gold Dollars, Type 2

GEM 1854 TYPE 2 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

12 **1854. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** An absolutely magnificent example of this condition rarity. The strike is remarkably sharp with the date and value showing absolutely no weakness. What is particularly unusual about this coin is the fact that it shows no evidence of clash marks as on virtually all known examples of Type 2 Gold Dollars. The lustre is simply outstanding and is further enhanced by delightful light orange and greenish gold coloring. The surfaces are nearly flawless with an absolute absence of marks which actually break into the planchet. This is an extremely conservatively graded coin which, in our opinion, could very easily have been graded Mint State 66. As is well known, Type 2 Gold Dollars are among the rarest and most difficult of all 19th Century gold types to locate in Mint State 65. Much of this is due to the fact that these pieces were extremely poorly stuck and most left the dies with a number of defects which immediately precluded them from Gem status by current grading interpretations. In Mint State 65, the 1854 is actually a much rarer coin than the 1855 Type 2 Gold Dollar; despite the fact that it sells for little if any premium. One of the nicest examples which has been sold in some time and of considerable interest to the advanced gold type coin collector.

GEM 1855 TYPE 2 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

13 **1855. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** An absolutely superb match to the previous coin and, like that piece, a remarkably well struck example. This piece shows some clash marks on the obverse and reverse but has a full date and value. In addition, the hair strands on Liberty show individual definition and the Wreath shows no weakness. Both the obverse and reverse display unbroken satiny lustre with lovely orange gold, green and rose splashes. Like the 1854 offered above, this piece is virtually flawless. One of the most beautiful Type 2 Gold Dollars which we have seen, regardless of date. Another very important piece for the type collector.

Gold Dollars, Type 3

14 **1856. Upright 5. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck from slightly rusted dies. The surfaces are extremely frosty and display superb rich orange gold coloring. There is a tiny mark near the bridge of Liberty's nose; the reverse shows a few small marks at the center. However, this is a very Choice coin for the grade. A total of 33,660 examples of this variety were struck as compared to nearly 2 million of the much more common Slanting 5 1856 Gold Dollar. While this variety is not difficult to locate in lower grades, strictly Mint State examples are quite rare. Examples of this quality are extremely rare. According to Paul Taglione, the Condition Census for this variety ranges from Mint State 63 to Mint State 67. Thus, this piece is of Condition Census quality. One of the real "sleepers" in this group and a piece whose significance will be quickly noted by the advanced Gold Dollar specialist.

VIRTUALLY PERFECT 1857 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

15 **1857. PCGS graded Mint State 68.** An essentially perfect coin which is the finest Type 3 Gold Dollar of the 1850's which we have ever seen. The strike is absolutely full with no areas of weakness or patches of die rust as typically seen. The lustre is sensational and the coloring, a rich pink and orange gold, must be personally viewed to be fully appreciated. Even below strong magnification, we cannot find a single mark on this entire coin. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had graded 3 Type 3 Gold Dollars Mint State 68. However, all of these were dated in the 1880's. Gold Dollars of that era are far more commonly seen in superb condition than Gold Dollars in the 1850's. We feel that this is **unquestionably the Finest Known business strike 1857 Gold Dollar** and we are certain that this piece will set a record for this date.

Formerly sold by us as lot 614 in our February 22, 1977 sale. The coin realized $1650 against a $350 estimate

VERY RARE PROOF 1858 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

16 **1858. PCGS graded Proof 64.** One of an unknown but small number of Proofs struck. As on all Proof 1858 Gold Dollars, this piece has an obvious patch of die rust located directly above Liberty's eye. A beautiful two-tone example with very strong contrast noted between the frosted device and mirror-like fields. This piece is quite well manufactured for a Proof gold coin of this era with the surfaces showing an almost total absence of the small mint-made marks which are invariably seen. Estimates of the existing number of Proof 1858 Gold Dollars range from a low of 8 to a high of approximately a dozen. By gauging frequency of auction appearances from the last decade, we believe that the proper number is 10 or so pieces. It must be remembered that at least 2 of these are permanently impounded (in the Smithsonian and ANS collections) and a number of others are impaired. We feel that this is the finest 1858 Proof Gold Dollar currently available to collectors.

ONE OF THE FINEST 1859 GOLD DOLLARS

See Color Plate 1

17 **1859. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** An absolutely exceptional example which is certainly among the Finest Known examples of this scarce and underrated date. Very sharply struck on a planchet which shows typical striations (as made) but which has an absolute absence of clash marks. The date and value are sharp; the I in AMERICA is somewhat indistinct due to die clogging. Both the obverse and reverse display magnificent pale orange gold and light greenish coloring with some rich coppery scratches interspersed about the peripheries. This coin has absolutely no marks on its surfaces and it is really just about "as struck." It is probable that a small hoard of high quality 1859 Gold Dollars was dispersed sometime rather recently, as PCGS has graded 6 examples Mint State 65 as of November, 1988. However, none of those coins can remotely compare in terms of quality and eye appeal to this particular piece. This is the finest example graded by PCGS and, as we stated above, we believe that this piece is, at the very least, **one of the Finest Known.**

ANOTHER GEM 1859 GOLD DOLLAR

18 **1859. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** In most auction sales, this piece would be one of the most discussed lots in the entire sale. The magnitude and importance of this collection can be duly noted by the fact that this is not the nicest 1859 Gold Dollar which is present. This coin is very nearly of similar quality to the last. It is very sharply struck on a planchet which, remarkably, is absolutely free of striations or clash marks. The surfaces are extremely frosty with lovely pale rose toning atop green gold undertones. The surfaces are extremely clean with a virtual absence of contact marks. While there have been 6 examples graded Mint State 65 by PCGS, we cannot imagine any of those coins being of the quality of this particular piece.

19 **1859. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Incredibly, a third high-end Uncirculated 1859 Gold Dollar. Like the last coin, this piece is extremely frosty with absolutely no clash marks or striations. The lustre is abetted by rich orange gold coloring which changes to pale rose and coppery shadings on the reverse. There are a few small marks in the obverse fields with the noticeable of these being a tiny mint-made lint mark on Liberty's throat. A pleasing coin for the grade.

Formerly sold as lot 534 in NASCA's McNally Collection Sale of December, 1976

SUPERB AND VERY RARE GEM PROOF 1860 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

20 **1860. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A lovely two-tone example which is especially notable for its obvious originality. The obverse device is nicely frosted and is afforded strong contrast by the deep, reflective fields. Both sides are free of hairlines and are reflective. Both are, as well, overlaid with pale light cloudy toning which deepens to a coppery hue at the right obverse rim at about 3 o'clock. This piece is especially well manufactured for a Proof 1860 Gold Dollar. A total of 154 pieces were struck. Of these, it is believed that approximately three dozen exist. But of these, at least one-half are either impaired or impounded. The few Proof 1860 Gold Dollars which have been made available to collectors in recent years have been vastly inferior to the present specimen. As of November 1, 1988, this is the finest 1860 Proof Gold Dollar to be graded by PCGS.

ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN 1860 BUSINESS STRIKE GOLD DOLLARS

See Color Plate 1

21 **1860. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Premium quality. Very sharply struck and almost fully prooflike. Both the obverse and reverse display superb pale rose and deep golden coloring. There are a few scattered areas of roughness, as struck, but this coin is almost entirely free of marks which are associated with the minting process. This superb coin is easily the finest business strike 1860 Gold Dollar which we have seen or sold. It qualifies at the Condition Census level and a strong case could be made for calling this the Finest Known. An extremely rare and very underrated date and truly a memorable coin.
Formerly sold as lot 1351 in Auction '81, where it realized $7,700

CONDITION CENSUS 1860 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

22 **1860. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Premium quality. Entirely different in appearance from the last coin as this piece was, undoubtedly, struck much later in the year. Here, the surfaces are extremely frosty with an entirely different fabric. The strike is very sharp with the centers showing full detail. Both sides display superb pale rose and golden coloring. A few small marks in the upper left obverse field are the only reason we can think of as to why this coin was not graded a full Mint State 65. Nearly as attractive as the last coin and, again, of Condition Census quality. In our experience, all high quality gold coinage dated 1860 is extremely rare and undervalued.

VERY RARE GEM PROOF 1861 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

23 **1861. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A superb and absolutely original Gem Proof with lovely rich cloudy gold toning on the obverse and reverse. The underlying surfaces are fully reflective and brilliant with an intense orange peel texture. Unlike most Proofs of this date and era, there are no mint-made planchet irregularities. A very faint tone spot at the bottom of Liberty's neck serves as immediate identification. The unusually high mintage figure of 349 Proofs has long been a controversial subject. Some numismatic scholars believe that this is an error, while others believe that this represents an abnormally high amount of pieces which were struck solely on "speculation" and then mostly melted when they went unsold to collectors. Most seasoned numismatists, however, are in agreement on the rarity of this date in Proof. Approximately two dozen pieces exist with most of these to some degree impaired. This is the finest piece graded by PCGS as of November, 1988, and it is almost certainly among the Finest Known.
Formerly sold as lot 32 in Rarcoa's 1975 CSNS Sale

See Color Plate 1

24 **1862. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Quite sharply struck and frosty. Both the obverse and reverse display superb rich pink and gold coloring. At first glimpse, this coin has the appearance of a full-blown Gem but more careful examination reveals a few extremely faint hairlines.

EXTREMELY RARE PROOF 1863 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

25 **1863. PCGS graded Proof 64.** A lovely, absolutely original Proof with exquisite deep cloudy golden coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are fully reflective and display a rich orange peel texture. Below magnification, an absolutely insignificant scrape is visible on Liberty's cheek; a tiny mark above the A in DOLLAR serves as ready identification. This date is very rare both as a Proof and a business strike. A total of only 50 of the former were struck and it is believed that as few as a dozen are still in existence today. When one considers that a number of these pieces are impounded and a few other of these are impaired, the offering of this coin takes on further significance. In addition, as of November 1, 1988, this is the only Proof 1863 Gold Dollar to be graded by PCGS.

EXTREMELY RARE GEM BUSINESS STRIKE 1863 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

26 **1863. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Unlike virtually every known business strike of this date, this piece displays superb lustre and a virtual absence of mint-made planchet striations. Both the obverse and reverse are satiny with lovely rich orange gold coloring. The strike is very sharp with all of Liberty's hair strands showing individual definition. The surfaces are quite clean with only the most insignificant of small, scattered marks visible below magnification. In this grade, the 1863 Gold Dollar is rare than a Proof. It is believed that no more than 3 or 4 Gems are known and none of these have been offered for sale in recent years. As of November 1, 1988, this piece was tied with one other example as the highest graded 1863 Gold Dollar to be examined by PCGS.

A PAIR OF REMARKABLE GEM PROOF 1865 GOLD DOLLARS

See Color Plate 1

27 **1865. Original. Low, level date. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A lovely, bright cameo example with strong two-toned contrast between the heavily frosted device and the extremely deep mirror surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse are free of toning with the exception of a tiny coppery spot immediately to the right of the F in OF. The surfaces are essentially perfect with an absence of hairlines or mint-made imperfections. This is an extremely early Proof strike without the die buckling on the obverse which is seen on the later strikes of this issue. An extremely rare coin with an original mintage of only 25 pieces. Of these, it is believed that only a dozen or so exist. And of these 12 coins, a number are impaired while still others show conspicuous mint-made imperfections. This is one of only 2 Proof 1865 Gold Dollars graded by PCGS and it is certainly among the Finest Known.

See Color Plate 1

28 **1865. Original. Low, level date. PCGS graded Proof 65.** The appearance of two Gem Proof 1865 Gold Dollars in one auction sale very probably represents a first in the history of modern numismatics. This piece is of similar quality to the last although it is quite a bit different in appearance. On this coin, both the obverse and the reverse are covered with intense, rich cloudy russet gold coloring. The underlying surfaces are remarkably clean and brilliant with no hairlines or mint-made imperfections noted below magnification. Like the last piece, this is an earlier Die State without any obverse buckling. Until the appearance of these two pieces, PCGS had not graded a single Proof example of this issue. It is highly unlikely that this grading service will see another Proof 1865 Gold Dollar. Again, one of the Finest Known examples of this date.

REMARKABLE FINEST KNDWN 1865 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

29 **1865. Original. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** Premium quality. In a sale which is replete with a number of unsurpassed rarities, this coin must be included among the upper echelon of individual pieces. The strike is exceptionally sharp despite a clashed obverse and reverse die; the underlying surfaces show far fewer mint-made striations than normal. Both the obverse and reverse show rich frosty lustre and absolutely superb orange gold and greenish coloring. Excepting the aforementioned clash marks, this piece is virtually perfect without a single mark visible to the naked eye. After extensive research, we can conclusively state that this piece is unquestionably the Finest Known 1865 Gold Dollar. Until the appearance of this and the following coin, PCGS had not graded any 1865 Gold Dollars higher than Mint State 64.

THE SECDND FINEST KNOWN 1865 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

30 **1865. Original. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Premium quality. A second simply superb example of this great rarity. Like the last coin, this piece is struck from clashed dies but shows far less extensive planchet striations than general. This piece is a bit more satiny than the last with very slightly reflective surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse display splendid light golden coloring. A tiny coppery toning spot at 6 o'clock on the obverse serves as ready identification. Until the appearance of the coin described immediately above, this particular coin was universally hailed as the Finest Known business strike 1865 Gold Dollar. While not generally recognized as such, this date is actually of comparable rarity to the celebrated 1875 in this grade.

Formerly sold as lot 1360 in Auction '81 where it realized $11,500

A THIRD SUPERB 1865 GDLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

31 **1865. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Remarkably, we now offer a third extremely high quality Mint State example of this date. This piece is obviously an earlier strike than the last as both its obverse and reverse are fully prooflike. There are curious "unfinished" areas of frost; one of these is located directly behind Liberty's head while the other is located above and to the left of the value on the reverse. These are the result of specific areas of the die on which the Proof polish had worn away after a certain number of coins were struck. Both the obverse and reverse show breathtaking deep even orange gold coloring. A small mint-made mark at 9 o'clock on the reverse serves as immediate identification and is probably the reason why this otherwise deserving coin was not graded Mint State 65.

EXTREMELY RARE GEM PROOF 1866 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

32 **1866. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A stunning two-toned Gem with especially strong cameo contrast. The obverse device is very heavily frosted while the fields are brilliant and reflective. The surfaces have a rich orange peel texture and are free of hairlines. Most remarkably, this piece shows none of the mint-made imperfections which are present on virtually all known Proofs of this date. A total of only 30 pieces were struck of which as few as a dozen still exist. Of these, at least two are permanently impounded (in the Smithsonian and ANS collections) and at least 3 or 4 others of these are included in very closely held collections. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded one other 1866 Gold Dollar in Proof; a Proof 63. Quite obviously one of the Finest Known and a very important coin.

Formerly sold as lot 626 in Rarcoa's Kauffman Sale of August, 1978. Unlike many of the other coins in that sale, this piece has no "tack marks" on its edges

ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN BUSINESS STRIKE 1866 GOLD DOLLARS

See Color Plate 1

33 **1866. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** Premium quality. From the standpoint of aesthetics, this piece is one of the finest Gold Dollars in this incomparable collection. While exhibiting strong clash marks on the obverse and reverse, it is still extremely well impressed with all of the fine details at the center up and bold. The surfaces are a combination of mint frost and prooflike reflectiveness with superb orange gold coloring which deepens to rich green gold towards the edges. Discounting the aforementioned clash marks, the surfaces are as close to perfect as on any example of this date we have ever seen. Paul Taglione claims that he knew of the existence of two Mint State 67 1866 Gold Dollars. But, as of November, 1988, PCGS had graded no examples of this date higher than Mint State 65. It is very possible that at least one—if not both—of the coins which he described would not grade Mint State 67 by the rigorous grading standards of PCGS. Thus, at the very least, **this coin is at least the third Finest Known.**

Formerly sold as lot 515 in Stack's December, 1972 Lloyd Myers Sale where it realized a then astonishing $900

See Color Plate 1

34 **1867. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Semi-prooflike and sharply struck from fairly heavily clashed dies; LIBERTY is fully visible, incuse, below the date. Despite these clash marks, the surfaces are still much above-average for the date with far fewer planchet striations noted than typically seen. Both the obverse and the reverse are toned to a rich orange gold with pale green gold undertones at the obverse center. An extremely Choice coin for the grade. Only 5,200 business strikes were struck.

Formerly sold as lot 793 in Stack's October 1976 sale

GEM 1868 BUSINESS STRIKE GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

35 **1868. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A breathtakingly beautiful coin on account of its splendid rich orange gold coloring. Extremely well struck and fully frosty with no prooflike surface evident. Below this lovely coloring, the surfaces are extremely clean and, most notably, there are none of the typically seen mint-made planchet striations. As of November 1, 1988, only one example of this date had been graded higher by PCGS.

See Color Plate 1

36 **1868. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Virtually as Choice as the last coin but entirely different in terms of its appearance. This piece is mostly prooflike with considerable areas of frost interspersed. Unlike so many of the Gold Dollars of the late 1860's, it exhibits no clash marks, striations or other mint-made imperfections. A very strong case could have been made for grading this coin Mint State 65 as its surfaces show no marks which are readily visible to the naked eye.

Formerly sold as lot 1365 in Auction '81 where it realized $9,000

A PAIR OF ESSENTIALLY PERFECT 1869 GOLD DOLLARS

See Color Plate 1

37 **1869. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** As on all known business strikes of this date, there is a "tear drop" below Liberty's eye and a file mark which runs through Liberty's ear into her hair. This piece and the next cannot be adequately described by words. This coin truly epitomizes the statement "as struck." Both the obverse and reverse are extremely sharp and both sides display superb mint lustre. In addition, the coloring—a rich yellow gold—is remarkable. Even below magnification, this coin shows a virtual absence of marks. Years and years of searching could not procure a finer example. Both this and the next coin should set a record price for the issue.

Formerly sold by us as lot 649 in our February 1977 sale

THE SECOND SUPERB GEM 1869 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

38 **1869. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** A twin to the last coin in terms of its diagnostics and overall quality but quite different in appearance. This piece is a combination of satiny and frosty lustre with lovely orange gold coloring which deepens to a rich green gold towards the edges. Again, the surfaces are essentially perfect with no marks visible to the naked eye. This piece would make a wonderful addition to a gold type set or to a world class Gold Dollar set.

See Color Plate 1

39 **1870. Repunched 0 in date. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Mostly frosty with some slight semi-prooflike texture noted. Very boldly struck with the centers showing extremely good detail. The obverse and reverse are each toned to a rich rose and orange gold at the centers with some deepening of the color at the borders. A tiny toning spot below the R in AMERICA serves as ready identification. On the reverse, there are some raised die striae, as struck. A genuinely Choice coin for the grade and a very beautiful example of this scarce date. Only 6,300 business strikes were produced. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 2 1870 Gold Dollars higher than this piece.

Formerly sold as lot 1195 in Stack's May, 1971 sale

EXTREMELY RARE AND VERY UNDERRATED PROOF 1871 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

40 **1871. PCGS graded Proof 64.** A very beautiful and strictly original example with rich even deep golden coloring atop the obverse and the reverse. A sharp, even impression with the reverse showing much better detail than usually seen on striking of this date. The underlying surfaces are extremely reflective and free of hairlines. A long, swirling mintmark at the first A in AMERICA and a small area of roughness above the 87 in the date are all that keep this piece from, at the very least, a Proof 65 grade. This is **an extremely rare and underrated issue** with an original mintage of only 30 Proofs. It is believed that only 13 or so pieces still exist with a number of these impaired and still more impounded. As of November 1, 1988, this is the only 1871 Proof Gold Dollar graded by PCGS.

Formerly sold as lot 60 in the Eliasberg sale (where it realized $6,875); before that in the collection of John H. Clapp and earlier sold as part of the Harlan P. Smith Collection which was sold by the Chapman brothers in 1906

RARE AND BEAUTIFUL BORDERLINE GEM 1871 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

41 **1871. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A decidedly above-average strike for the date with the centers almost completely defined; virtually all known examples of this date are extremely weak at their centers. This piece is a mixture of semi-prooflike and frosty lustre with the reverse more fully prooflike than the obverse. Both sides show superb toning with rich coppery orange and pale green gold splashes interspersed. There is a small scratch to the left of the value; otherwise, this is a superb piece with strong claims to a higher grade. A rare coin with a total mintage of only 3,900 business strikes.

Formerly sold in Bowers and Ruddy's February 17, 1977 sale

ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN 1872 GOLD DOLLARS

See Color Plate 1

42 **1872. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** A simply superb fully struck Gem which is entirely prooflike and which shows the sharpest detail which we have ever seen on a business strike of this date. Both the obverse and reverse are basically untoned with lovely, bright lustre. The surfaces are absolutely pristine with only some mint-made raised die striations visible below magnification. **This is the second finest 1872 Gold Dollar of which we are aware.** The only finer example known is the coin which appeared in Auction '81 and which, fairly recently, was graded Mint State 66 (twice) by PCGS. Another exceedingly important and very beautiful Gold Dollar.

Formerly sold as lot 1394 in New England's July 24, 1976 sale

A SUPERB GEM EXAMPLE OF THE CELEBRATED 1875 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

43 **1875. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Fully prooflike but an unquestionable business strike as evidenced by the diagnostic "thorn" which runs from Liberty's throat into the field. In addition, the surfaces retain a liberal amount of frost within the mirror-like reflectiveness. The strike is exceptionally sharp with the centers fully detailed and with a high wire rim noted from 10 o'clock to 1 o'clock on the obverse. The surfaces are extremely clean and are overlaid with superb rich orange gold coloring. A small toning spot below the T in UNITED serves as identification. The 1875 Gold Dollar is the rarest Philadelphia issue of this type and one of the most famous of all Gold Dollars. Only 400 business strikes were produced and of these, it is estimated that only 40 to 50 pieces still are known. Approximately a dozen Mint State pieces exist but only a handful could remotely compare to this superb piece. This is the finest 1875 Gold Dollar to appear on the market in a number of years and, as of November, 1988, it is the only example of this date to have been graded higher than Mint State 60 by PCGS. One of the most important coins in this offering and a piece which will almost certainly set a record price for the issue.

VERY RARE AND UNDERRATED PROOF 1876 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

44 **1876. PCGS graded Proof 64.** A gorgeous, absolutely original example with rich cloudy toning on the obverse and reverse. Extremely well struck and carefully manufactured with the underlying surfaces very reflective and showing just a few insignificant striations. While many collectors of Proof Gold coinage prefer pieces which are "bright and shiny," we personally prefer pieces which display their originality as conspicuously as this coin. One of only 45 Proofs struck and one of fewer than two dozen survivors from this small original mintage. Proof 1876 Gold coinage of all denominations has always been unfairly overshadowed by the 1875 issues. This piece is a great rarity in its own right, and, as of November 1, 1988, it is the finest Proof 1876 Gold Dollar graded by PCGS.

Formerly sold as lot 796 in New England's March 26, 1977 sale where it realized $2700

45 **1876. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Mostly prooflike with rich velvety smooth golden surfaces. Just a bit weakly struck on the hair curls under LIBER in LIBERTY as are virtually all known examples; the reverse is quite sharp with no weakness at the centers. The surfaces are very vibrant and show a few minor marks in the fields. Only 3,200 business strikes were produced and Mint State survivors are rare and underrated. Typically, Mint State 1876 Gold Dollars grade from Mint State 60 to Mint State 63. This piece would fit comfortably into the finest Gold Dollar collection. As of November 1, 1988, only two examples have been graded higher by PCGS.

Formerly sold as lot 664 in our February, 1977 sale

GEM 1877 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

46 **1877. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A lovely, sharply struck Gem example. The surfaces are somewhat prooflike and enhanced by superb pale rose and orange gold toning; this coloring is most particularly evident at the ribbon ends. The surfaces are quite clean with no significant marks noted to the naked eye. A total of 3900 business strikes were produced and, like all 1877 coinage regardless of denomination this is an extremely popular issue. As of November 1, 1988, only one 1877 Gold Dollar has been graded higher than this by PCGS.

EXTREMELY RARE 1878 PROOF GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

47 **1878. PCGS graded Proof 64.** Superb rich orange gold toning is visible on both the obverse and reverse. The underlying surfaces are brilliant and extremely reflective with virtually no hairlines noted. A tiny, somewhat dark toning spot at 11 o'clock on the reverse serves as ready identification. In our opinion, the 1878 Gold Dollar is one of the rarest and most underappreciated of all Proof Gold issues. Only 20 pieces were originally struck and between 10 and 12 still exist. Typically, a Proof example of this date will only appear on the market once every two or three years. Thus, this piece represents an extremely important opportunity for the specialist or for the connoisseur of genuinely rare coins. As one might expect, this is the only Proof example of this date graded by PCGS as of November 1, 1988.

Formerly sold as lot 783 in Stack's March 13, 1973 Sale where it realized $1650

48 **1878. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Extremely well struck and lustrous with very slightly prooflike tendencies noted on both the obverse and reverse. Struck in rich gold with pale rose and green gold overtones. Some very slight marks, most of which appear to have been in the planchet before this coin was struck, are visible on the obverse; the reverse is of full Gem quality. A beautiful example of this rare issue; only 3,000 business strikes were produced.

Formerly sold as lot 633 in Lester Merkin's April, 1970 sale

GEM PROOF 1880 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

49 **1880. PCGS graded Proof 65.** An unquestionable Proof example which lacks die file marks at ATE as found on most business strikes. In addition, the surfaces show full mirror-like reflectiveness and heavy orange peel texture. Both the obverse and reverse are extremely brilliant and have a very attractive rich coloring. This piece is entirely free of hairlines and is just a tiny reverse lint mark or two away from virtual perfection. In our opinion, this coin could very easily have been graded Proof 66 as it certainly appears considerably nicer than many other Proof 65 Gold Dollars which we have seen graded by PCGS. One of only 36 pieces originally struck; of these it is believed that approximately two dozen still exist. Probably 90 to 95% of these surviving coins grade from Proof 55 to 63 and examples of this quality are extremely rare. As of November 1, 1988, this is the highest graded PCGS 1880 Proof Gold Dollar.

SUPERB GEM BUSINESS STRIKE 1880 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

50 **1880. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** While this date generally comes as nice as any of the Gold Dollars of the 1880's, this is an absolutely incredible example. It is 100% fully struck and frosty with superb orange gold and greenish coloring. The surfaces are vibrant and flawless. Any United States gold coin of this remarkable quality is extremely rare. The serious type collector would be hardpressed to exceed the presently offered 1880 Gold Dollar.

A SECOND SUPERB GEM 1880 BUSINESS GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

51 **1880. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** This coin is every bit as attractive as the last 1880 Gold Dollar. Its quality of strike is not quite as sharp but it still shows extremely bold details, especially in the centers. The surfaces are frosty and vibrant with magnificent deep orange gold and pale greenish coloring. Again, the surfaces are impeccable. A beautiful and rare coin which should be of considerable excitement to the date or type collector. Only 1,600 business strikes were produced.

YET ANOTHER SUPERB GEM 1880 GOLD DOLLAR

52 **1880. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** Premium quality. A blazing, fully struck Gem which, once again, displays incredibly beautiful coloring. Here, the obverse and reverse are enlivened with splashes of orange gold and greenish coloring. A coppery toning spot at N in UNITED serves as identification. Both the obverse and reverse are nearly perfect and many observers will feel that this piece is every bit as choice as the last two.

See Color Plate 1

53 **1880. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Visually, a virtual twin of the last three coins but with a few small marks located in the obverse fields and at the reverse center. This piece has especially nice color and lustre and represents very nice quality for the grade.

VERY RARE AND UNDERRATED PROOF 1881 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

54 **1881. PCGS graded Proof 65.** Unlike virtually all examples offered for sale, this piece is an obvious Proof. Both the obverse and reverse are intensely reflective and show full orange peel texture. In addition, there is no crumbling of the rim and the letters on the obverse are strongly doubled. The quality of this piece is absolutely superb. Both the obverse and reverse are overlaid with intense rich cloudy orange gold toning which covers unhairlined and vibrant surfaces. One of only 87 Proofs struck; approximately 30 or so of these exist with just a handful remotely as Choice as this piece. As of November 1, 1988, this is the highest graded Proof 1881 Gold Dollar which has been examined by PCGS.

SUPERB GEM 1881 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

55 **1881. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** An absolutely exceptional coin with perhaps the prettiest coloring of any Gold Dollar in this sale. The upper half of the obverse shows a splash of fuchsia coloring and this is contrasted by the lower half of the coin which is a light orange gold changing to medium green gold below the throat; the reverse is a more even rose gold with a splash of coppery toning at the left ribbon end. The strike is extremely sharp and the surfaces are abundantly lustrous. Below this superb coloring, the surfaces are nearly perfect. While a number of nice examples of this date are known to exist (as evidenced by the 4 Gems in this sale alone) 1881 Gold Dollars of this quality are very rare.

A GROUP OF THREE MINT STATE 66 1881 GOLD DOLLARS

See Color Plate 1

56 **1881. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** Unquestionably from the famous Lindheim holding which was sold approximately a decade ago as evidenced by the die rust below Liberty's throat and on the corresponding reverse which was seen on virtually all the coins in that group. This satiny Gem is well struck and very clean with rich coloring. This date, along with the 1880 and the 1889 Gold Dollars, is one of the few United States gold coins which can be obtained in this grade with any degree of frequency. As such, this piece would make a wonderful type coin.

57 **1881. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** Another Ex-Lindheim coin with similar but slightly less extensive rust noted on the lower obverse and the corresponding reverse. This piece is a bit more prooflike than the last, especially on the obverse. This piece is also very well struck and extremely clean with very attractive medium yellow gold toning which deepens to a pale green gold at the borders.

58 **1881. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** The final example of this remarkable offering. This piece has particularly nice color with rich orange gold centers which change to light green gold towards the edges. The surfaces are very lustrous and slightly reflective. The strike is quite sharp and the coin has lovely eye appeal.

SUPERB GEM 1882 BUSINESS STRIKE

See Color Plate 1

59 **1882. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** A superb, frosty Gem example of this popular low mintage issue. The satiny surfaces are quite clean and display wonderful light green gold and orange toning. While Mint State 65 examples of the 1882 Gold Dollar are occasionally offered for sale, examples of this quality are very rare. Only 5,000 business strikes were produced. This is a particularly nice coin for the grade and it is one of only 8 pieces graded as such by PCGS as of November 1, 1988.

See Color Plate 1

60 **1882. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Premium quality. The coloring of this coin, which is a blend of bright orange gold, copper and green gold, is absolutely exceptional. The reverse is deeper in hue than the obverse. The strike is quite sharp and the lustre is excellent with a nice mixture of frost and semi-prooflike reflectiveness noted. The underlying surfaces are very clean with only a few tiny obverse marks to the left of Liberty's throat visible below magnification. Gold Dollars of this quality are, at current price levels, extremely good values.

GEM PROOF 1883 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

61 **1883. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A very early striking with heavy orange peel texture on both the obverse and reverse as well as bold, squared rims. Each side is extremely clean and reflective with even golden coloring. A tiny coppery toning in the left obverse field serves as identification; another toning spot, this at the R in DOLLAR on the reverse, is not as readily visible. A total of 207 Proofs were struck with approximately 75 to 80 still in existence. However, an unusually large number of these are severely impaired and, when offered for sale, examples tend to grade Proof 55 to Proof 63. PCGS has only graded one other example of this date Proof 65 as of November 1, 1988, with one other piece graded higher.

AWESOME GEM UNCIRCULATED 1883 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

62 **1883. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** From a condition standpoint, this is one of the most incredible pieces, from an offering which is replete with coins which may not be duplicated again in our lifetime. This piece is almost fully prooflike and is so well struck that it was, unquestionably, one of the first business strikes produced. As with many of the early prooflike strikings of this date, RT in LIBERTY is indistinct. Both the obverse and reverse are a light rich golden coloring with two reverse coppery toning spots at the center serving as prominent identification. While the 1883 is very easy to find in the lower ranges of Mint State, examples of this quality are extremely rare. Only 2 other pieces have been graded similarly by PCGS as of November 1, 1988. This particular coin is probably close to Condition Census quality for the date although there are enough nice pieces in existence that it is extremely difficult to state this with accuracy.

63 **1883. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Entirely different in appearance than the last coin, as this piece is frosty with vivid orange gold coloring. The strike is quite sharp and the surfaces are impeccable with the exception of a very shallow mint-made mark above the 3 in the date. A nice type coin which, while much rarer than the 1889 in this grade, generally sells for a similar price.

VERY RARE DOUBLE DATE 1884 PROOF GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

64 **1884. Double date. The date was first punched much too low and slanting up to the right. Breen-6107; described as "very rare." PCGS graded Proof 64.** An unquestionable Proof example with full orange peel texture, a sharpness of strike never found on regular issues and fully squared rims. Both the obverse and reverse are overlaid with pleasing natural cloudy golden coloring. The underlying surfaces are quite reflective and extremely choice for the grade. The very high mintage figure of 1,006 Proofs of this issue is a direct result of a jewelry craze which lasted from 1884 to 1889. Proof Gold Dollars were ordered in large quantities by jewelers who then mounted these coins and sold them to women in bracelets, pins and necklaces. Thus, far fewer Proof 1884 Gold Dollars have survived the ages intact then this mintage figure would lead one to believe. It is estimated that only 100 or so pieces are known to exist, with many of these grading Proof 60 to Proof 63. In addition, this is easily the nicest example of this very rare variety which we have seen.

See Color Plate 1

65 **1884. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Very sharply struck with lovely even medium golden coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are mostly prooflike with liberal amounts of frost within reflectiveness. Both sides are quite clean with no major impairments noted to the naked eye. Business strike 1884 Gold Dollars are, by a large margin, the most difficult date of this era to locate in the upper ranges of Mint State. While this date sells for virtually no premium over, say, an 1883 or an 1889, it is substantially rarer. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 5 other pieces Mint State 65 with none graded higher. An excellent opportunity for the astute specialist or the sophisticated type collector.
Formerly sold as lot 1261 in New England's December, 1976 sale

MAGNIFICENT GEM PROOF 1885 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

66 **1885. PCGS graded Proof 66.** An absolutely unquestionable Proof example with extremely heavy orange peel texture on both the obverse and reverse as well as fully squared edges; the obverse shows a bold wire rim from 7 o'clock to 1 o'clock. Both the obverse and reverse are overlaid with breathtaking deep orange gold coloring. The underlying surfaces are absolutely flawless and this piece is one of the finest Type 3 Gold Dollars of any date which we have handled in a number of years. While 1,105 proofs were struck, this date is much rarer than its mintage would indicate for the same reason as discussed for the Proof 1884 Gold Dollar offered above. Approximately 100 Proofs survive with the majority of these grading from Proof 55 to Proof 63. This piece is tied with one other as the finest 1885 Proof Gold Dollar to be graded by PCGS and as of November 1, 1988 it is one of only 5 Type 3 Gold Dollars of any date to be accorded this grade.

GEM PROOF 1885 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 1

67 **1885. PCGS graded Proof 65.** In any other auction, this coin would be the finest Type 3 Gold Dollar in the sale. In this unprecedented offering, however, it is "yet another" Proof 65. This particular coin has lovely natural rich cloudy orange gold coloring which is accentuated by a few coppery toning spots at the upper reverse. The underlying surfaces are reflective and maintain a heavy orange peel texture. This coin is definitely one of the nicer survivors of the 100 or so Proof 1885 Gold Dollars known.

SUPERB GEM BUSINESS STRIKE 1885 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 2

68 **1885. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** Very sharply struck and extremely frosty with beautiful rich orange gold and greenish coloring. The surfaces are so clean that it is impossible to distinguish a single mark which could be used in reference for future identification. This date is very rare in Mint State 65 and extremely rare in any grade higher than this. As of November 1, 1988, this is the only 1885 Gold Dollar to be graded Mint State 67 by PCGS. Obviously, a very special coin and one of the Finest Known.

See Color Plate 2

69 **1886. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Quite well struck with the exception of the curls immediately below I8E in LI8ERTY. The surfaces are frosty and slightly prooflike. Both the obverse and reverse display the lovely rich orange gold coloring which characterizes strictly original unimpaired business strikes of this date. While once regarded as one of the more common Gold Dollars of the 1880's in Mint State 65, recent auction records show that this date is actually significantly underrated. In fact, PCGS has graded fewer examples of this date in Mint State 65 than any other date of the 1880's. Only 3 other examples have been graded Mint State 65 as of November 1, 1988, with no examples graded higher.

RARE PROOF 1887 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 2

70 **1887. PCGS graded Proof 64.** An unquestionable Proof with the top of the Wreath joined and the 7 in the date beneath the A in DOLLAR. The heavy orange peel texture, quality of strike and squared rims give further credence to the method of manufacture. Both the obverse and reverse are quite reflective with, once again, superb cloudy orange gold coloring. A tiny mint-made lint mark immediately below Liberty's throat narrowly removes this coin from the Gem category. One of 1,043 Proofs struck; approximately 150 pieces remain from the original mintage with a good number of these impaired.

71 **1887. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A pristine, very sharply struck example which shows a few light clash marks below the 87 in the date on the reverse. The surfaces are a blend of mint frost and prooflike reflectiveness and overlaid with very attractive rich orange gold coloring. This is another date which, while regarded as "common," is actually considerably rarer than such issues as the 1880, 1883 and 1889.

SUPERB GEM PROOF 1888 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 2

72 **1888. PCGS graded Proof 66.** Premium quality. An extremely conservatively graded coin as this piece is very nearly "as struck." Both the obverse and reverse are extremely reflective, display a lovely orange peel texture and are enhanced by truly exquisite medium golden coloring which deepens to a pale coppery hue in the right obverse field and above AR in DOLLAR. Unlike so many of the surviving Proofs of this date, this piece has never been cleaned and special care has probably been afforded to this piece in the ensuing century since its time of manufacture. A total of 1,079 Proofs were struck and of these approximately 125 to 150 exist. Most seen grade from Proof 55 to Proof 63 and Gems are very rare. Examples of this quality are, obviously, extremely rare. As of November 1, 1988, this piece is tied with one other example as the highest graded 1888 Proof Gold Dollar according to PCGS. Along with the similarly graded 1885 offered earlier, this piece is a highlight in terms of condition among the numerous fantastic Proof Type 3 Gold Dollars in the sale.

73 **1888. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Very sharply struck and satiny with especially attractive even orange gold coloring which changes to a pale green gold towards the borders. The strike is very sharp and the surfaces are quite clean. Not a really rare date but no Type 3 Gold Dollar, with the exception of the 1889, can rightfully be called "common" in this grade.

GEM PROOF 1889 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 2

74 **1889. PCGS graded Proof 65.** This coin is the variety on which ERT in LIBERTY is indistinct; this variety constitutes a good number of the Proofs struck this year. This is a lovely, unusually reflective Gem with beautiful surfaces and rich even orange gold coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are free of hairlines and this piece represents extremely good quality for the grade. One of 1,779 Proofs struck; of these only 125 or so exist, with a great majority of the survivors grading Proof 55 to Proof 63. As of November 1, 1988, only 2 other pieces had been graded as such by PCGS, with none graded higher.

SUPERB GEM 1889 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 2

75 **1889. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** A remarkable, fully struck Gem with superb lustre, lovely coloring and virtually perfect surfaces. While an amazingly high number of pieces have been graded Mint State 63 through Mint State 65 by PCGS, this date is unquestionably very rare in this grade. As of November 1, 1988, only 2 other pieces had been graded Mint State 67 with none graded higher. A piece for the perfectionist and a date which is always in demand as the last Gold Dollar to be struck before this denomination was abolished.

A GROUP OF THREE MINT STATE 66 1889 GOLD DOLLARS

76 **1889. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** Quite sharply struck from slightly clashed dies. Frosty and with rich orange, green gold and faint rose coloring. A tiny coppery toning spot below the base of the left side of the R in DOLLAR serves as identification. A beautiful type coin.

77 **1889. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** Very sharply struck and frosty with even orange gold coloring which deepens to a rich greenish gold below the bust and above the value on the reverse. The surfaces are extremely clean and vibrant although we do note a tiny mint-made mark between the second T and E in STATES which may be where some grease built up on the die during the time of strike.

78 **1889. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** A virtual twin to the last coin in terms of strike, appearance and overall quality. This piece has especially nice surfaces with a virtual absence of marks. Another wonderful type coin.

79 **1889. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Sharply struck and very frosty. Struck in deep orange and gold with rich coppery toning most notable at the obverse border. The magnitude of this sale can be fully realized when one notes that this MS-65 1889 Gold Dollar is the "worst" example of this date which is offered.

Quarter Eagles

While not nearly as extensive as the offerings of Gold Dollars and Three Dollar Gold Pieces in this sale, the following group of Liberty Head Quarter Eagles and Indian Head Quarter Eagles contains a number of significant and impressive coins.

Some of the more significant Liberty Head Quarter Eagles include one of the Finest Known Proof 1877's, a magnificent business strike of that date, a Mint State 66 1879 which is truly the epitome of a "Condition Rarity," a Gem business strike 1882, Gem proof examples of 1895 and 1897, as well as a Mint State 67 1904 which rates as one of the finest business strikes of this type which we can recall having seen or sold.

Indian Head Quarter Eagles are led by superb Proof examples of the 1908 and 1912. Other significant pieces include two Choice Mint State examples of the popular 1911-D. A number of especially nice common date issues are included as well; these should be of considerable interest to the type collector.

Liberty Head Quarter Eagles

EXTREMELY RARE GEM PROOF 1877 QUARTER EAGLES

80 **1877. PCGS graded Proof 65.** An absolutely superb, original example and **unquestionably one of the Finest Known examples of this great rarity.** Both the obverse and reverse show absolutely superb natural cloudy toning with the centers a rich orange gold and hue; this changes to a pale green gold towards the edges. The surfaces are extremely brilliant and absolutely free of hairlines. This piece is original in every respect and has obviously received special attention since it was struck. A small coppery toning spot between the third and fourth stars serves as identification. Below magnification, we note a small mint-made lint mark which runs from Liberty's nostril up towards the bridge of her nose. This date is quite rare, both as a business strike and as a Proof. Only 20 examples were struck; it is doubtful that more than half of these survive with at least two of these permanently impounded (in the Smithsonian and ANS collections) as well as at least 3 or 4 other pieces which are severely impaired. An outstanding piece and certainly one of the highlights of this section.

Formerly sold as lot 225 in the Eliasberg Sale and obtained from John Clapp in 1942; earlier from the Chapman Brothers in February, 1893

INCREDIBLE FINEST KNOWN BUSINESS STRIKE 1877 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

81 **1877. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** The surfaces are a blend of prooflike reflectiveness and rich, satiny mint lustre. Both the obverse and the reverse are overlaid with absolutely exquisite pale orange gold and delicate greenish coloring. The strike is absolutely full with no weakness noted on either the curls or the corresponding reverse. The surfaces are vibrant and extremely clean with an absence of detracting marks. While this date has a tiny mintage figure of 632 business strikes, it is generally overlooked by all but the most advanced gold coin collectors. However, business strike 1877 Quarter Eagles are very rare in any grade with probably no more than 50 or so pieces known overall. The typical example is apt to grade Very Fine to About Uncirculated and even pieces at the latter level are quite rare. This particular coin is, by a substantial margin, the finest 1877 Quarter Eagle known. PCGS has graded one piece Mint State 64 as of November 1, 1988; obviously, this piece is head and shoulders above that particular coin. A wonderful match to the last coin as well as the other premium quality 1877 gold coinage in this sale.
Formerly sold as lot 99 in Stack's December 11, 1970 Sale

82 **1878. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck and frosty with particularly appealing orange gold coloring. Both sides show a few light marks but this piece is genuinely choice and attractive. A nice type coin which, while considerably rarer than the 20th century Liberty Head Quarter Eagle dates in this grade, generally sells for the same price.

SUPERB GEM 1879 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

83 **1879. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** A truly sensational Quarter Eagle with the richest lustre imaginable. The strike is full in every respect and this is further complemented by lovely orange gold coloring. The surfaces are particularly clean and this is a truly beautiful coin. While lower quality Mint State 1879 Quarter Eagles are quite common, examples of this quality are very rare and seldom offered for sale. As of November 1, 1988, this piece is the only 1879 Quarter Eagle to be graded Mint State 66 by PCGS.
Formerly sold as lot 199 in Rarcoa's January, 1973 sale

RARE GEM 1882 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

84 **1882. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Extremely well struck with considerable prooflike surface mingled with full mint bloom on both the obverse and reverse. The centers show even gold and are framed by rich splashes of light green gold at the edges. A tiny coppery toning spot located in the right obverse field serves as immediate identification. This very scarce and popular date has a tiny mintage of only 4,000 business strikes. Mint State examples are occasionally offered for sale but generally grade Mint State 60 to Mint State 63. Examples of this quality are, obviously, very rare. As of November 1, 1988, this is the only Mint State example graded by PCGS.
Formerly sold as lot 196 in Bowers and Ruddy's November, 1972 sale

PROBABLE FINEST KNOWN 1886 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

85 **1886. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** A simply breathtaking coin with rich satiny lustre and superb color. Both the obverse and reverse centers are a bright orange gold which is framed by borders which have tones in medium green gold shades. The surfaces are extremely clean and this piece has incredible eye appeal. A total of 4,000 business strikes were produced and, unlike many of the low mintage strikes of this era, this date is legitimately rare in any Mint State grade. In Mint State 65 or above, the 1886 Quarter Eagle is extremely rare and this piece is clearly one of the Finest Known. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 2 pieces in Mint State of which the highest was graded Mint State 63.

CONDITION CENSUS 1894 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

86 **1894. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** In terms of quality and appearance, this piece is almost identical to the recently offered PCGS graded Mint State 66 1886 Quarter Eagle. Like that coin, this piece displays superb satiny lustre but is a bit more reflective. The coloring, again, has a configuration in which the centers are a bright orange gold while the borders are a more subdued and lovely greenish hue. Like the 1886, this date has an original mintage figure of 4,000 business strikes. Lower quality Uncirculated examples are not quite as rare as this small mintage figure would suggest. In Mint State 64, however, this date becomes quite rare and it is very rare in Mint State 65 or better. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded one example finer than this.

EXQUISITE GEM PROOF 1895

See Color Plate 2

87 **1895. PCGS graded Proof 65.** An intense two-tone cameo with very strong contrast noted between the frosted device and the mirror surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse are a rich light greenish gold coloring and show heavy orange peel texture. The surfaces are free of hairlines and this piece is much more carefully manufactured than a typical Proof of this date and denomination. A total of 119 Proofs were struck. Approximately 40 to 45 still exist. However, a good number of these appear to be off the market or severely impaired as PCGS has, as of November 1, 1988, only graded 5 1895 Proof Quarter Eagles; this is considerably less than most of the dates of the 1890's.

See Color Plate 2

88 **1895. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A sharply struck gem with rich satiny lustre and lovely delicate orange gold and greenish coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are extremely clean. This coin's coloring and originality make it a worthy candidate for a high quality type set. In addition, this is a rare date in this grade with an original mintage of only 6,000 business strikes. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded one other example of this date in Mint State 65.

89 **1896. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Sharply struck and frosty with excellent color and surfaces. One of only 19,070 business strikes produced and a coin which offers excellent value to the type collector who is seeking a significantly scarcer date at a common date price.

Formerly sold as lot 1100 in Quality Sales' September 12, 1973 sale

SUPERB GEM PROOF 1897 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

90 **1897. PCGS graded Proof 65.** Premium quality. One of the most attractive Proof examples of this type which we can recall having seen on account of its exceptionally deep cameo contrast and exhilarating rich coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in stunning cloudy greenish gold shadings with this coloring becoming somewhat deeper at the reverse border. The underlying surfaces are extremely clean and reflective with full orange peel texture and an absolute absence of hairlines. One infinitesimal mint-made lint mark directly above Liberty's head is the only reason, we would assume, that this coin was not graded Proof 66 at the very least. On eye appeal alone, this coin deserves a very strong premium. One of a total of 136 Proofs struck; approximately four dozen exist with an abnormally high number of these severely impaired. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 2 other examples Proof 65 but we seriously doubt if either one of these coins could compare to this sparkling Gem.

Formerly sold as lot 2855 in Stack's 1976 ANA sale

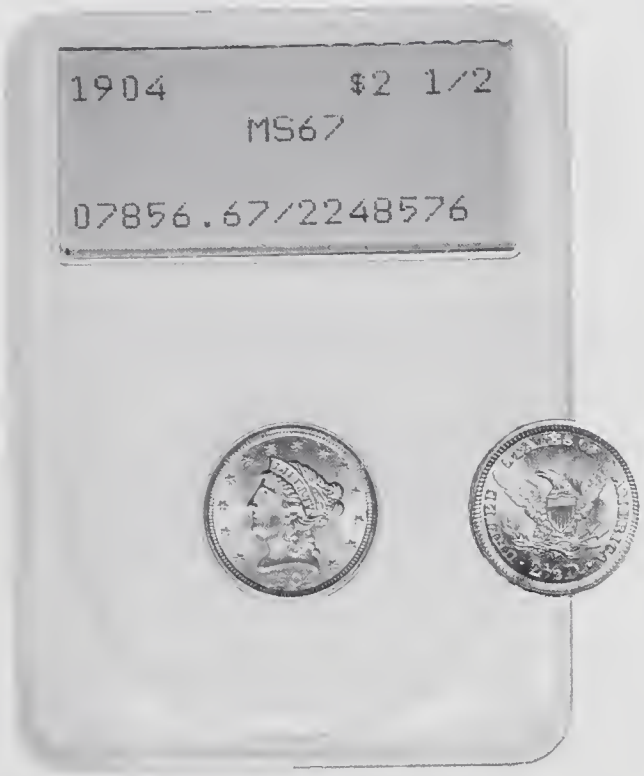
GEM 1898 QUARTER EAGLE

91 **1898. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Very sharply struck and frosty with magnificent rose coloring which is most notable at the centers and which changes to a deep greenish gold towards the edges. Unlike most examples of this date, the rims are sharp and show a relative absence of die deterioration and roughness. The surfaces are extremely clean and vibrant. A beautiful type coin and one of only 24,000 business strikes produced.

92 **1899. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Lustrous and sharply struck with attractive delicate orange gold coloring which brightens to a light rose at the centers.

Formerly sold as lot 1027 in Bowers and Ruddy's November 11, 1972 sale

INCREDIBLE 1904 QUARTER EAGLE



93 **1904. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** Even if you have no interest in Quarter Eagles or condition rarity United States gold coins, this coin must absolutely be viewed. Its coloring compares favorably with any business strike gold coin which we have ever seen. The centers are an intense orange gold and are strongly contrasted by rich greenish gold shadings at the edges. The strike is absolutely full and the frosty surfaces are virtually perfect. The visual effect of this coin is absolutely stunning and it would be hard to imagine a finer Liberty Head Quarter Eagle of any date appearing for sale. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 6 other Liberty Head Quarter Eagles Mint State 67 with no pieces having been graded higher. These other 6 coins are most probably off the market for a number of years and, thus, this piece represents an extremely important opportunity for the connoisseur who is seeking an unimprovable coin of this denomination.

94 **1906. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Frosty and sharply struck with attractive color and nice surfaces.
Formerly sold as lot 471 in Harmer Rooke's November 17, 1969 sale

95 **1907. PCGS graded Mint State 62.** A generally pleasing coin for the grade despite the presence of some small marks in the obverse fields.

Indian Head Quarter Eagles

GEM PROOF 1908 QUARTER EAGLE

96 **1908. PCGS graded Proof 65.** Struck in the characteristic dark matte finish of this year and with somewhat deeper coloring than typically seen; this is very probably due to a bit of orange gold toning which is noticeable on both sides. The surfaces are quite clean with no shiny spots or marks noted. Overall, an outstanding example of this beautiful and popular issue. One of a total of 236 Proofs struck. In his excellent new book on 20th Century United States Gold Coinage, David Akers estimates that 70 to 80 Proof 1908 Quarter Eagles are known. This piece is certainly among the nicest of these.

VERY RARE BORDERLINE GEM 1911-D QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

97 **1911-D. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Premium quality. Extremely well struck with the mintmark uncharacteristically sharp. A bright, lustrous example of this popular issue with extremely pleasing coloring and outstanding surfaces. This coin is about as close to a full Mint State 65 as is possible due to its virtual absence of marks and its superb original appearance. This is easily the rarest Indian Head Quarter Eagle. In fact, David Akers regards the 1911-D as a Low Rarity-7 (21 to 30 known) in Mint State 64. This is one of the nicest examples which we have been privileged to sell in a number of years.
Formerly sold as lot 349 in Bowers and Ruddy's December 12, 1975 sale. The coin realized $2,300

A SECOND MINT STATE 1911-D QUARTER EAGLE

98 **1911-D. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Another extremely nice example of this issue. This piece is also extremely well struck and shows a boldly defined mintmark. Both the obverse and reverse have an even golden coloring and show nice lustre. There are no serious or detracting marks noted to the naked eye and this piece, again, represents premium quality for both the date and for the grade. Overall, an extremely pleasing coin which would fit comfortably into any Indian Head Quarter Eagle set.

SUPERB GEM MATTE PROOF 1912 QUARTER EAGLE

99 **1912. PCGS graded Proof 67.** Struck in the fine sandblast finish which is characteristic of the Matte Proofs of 1912 and 1913; this issue possesses a superb rich yellow gold coloring which is found only on Proofs of this particular date. This coin is one of the most flawless Matte Proof coins of any date or denomination which we have ever seen. The surfaces are entirely free of handling marks or shiny spots. In addition, the strike is especially sharp with a bold, high wire rim noted on both the obverse and reverse. It may be a number of years until a comparable example of this issue is offered for sale at public auction. A total of 197 Proofs were struck and it is estimated that approximately 50 to 60 of these still exist. This particular coin is, undoubtedly, among of finest of these. As of November 1, 1988, this is only 1 of 2 examples graded as such by PCGS.

100 **1914-D. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** A late striking with a pronounced "inner ring" on both the obverse and reverse. The surfaces are exceptionally frosty and display lovely rich orange gold coloring. An especially attractive example of an issue which is much scarcer in this grade than generally believed.

101 **1925-D. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Premium quality. Well struck and frosty with nice color. Probably the most common date of this type in Mint State and, as such, a nice type coin.

102 **1925-D. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** An extremely attractive frosty example with excellent color and surfaces. The obverse is particularly choice.

103 **1926. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck and frosty with excellent color and lustre. The obverse is of virtual Gem quality while there are a few tiny marks behind the motto on the reverse. A nice type coin.

104 **1926. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A second borderline Gem example. This piece is particularly frosty and exhibits rich natural coloring.

105 **1926. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Extremely frosty with nice color.

106 **1926. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** A premium quality coin on account of its rich rosy tint which is visible on both the obverse and reverse.

107 **1928. PCGS graded Mint State 62.** Frosty with a choice obverse; the reverse shows a few marks.

108 **1929. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Excellent lustre and color. A significantly more difficult date to acquire in this grade than the 1925-1928 issues.

109 **1929. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Sharp and frosty with pleasing color and nice surfaces for the grade.

110 **1929. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Another affordable yet very pleasing example for the type collector.

Three Dollar Gold

In this section, there are a total of 14 Three Gold Dollar Pieces. In any other sale, each of these coins would be a "star" in its own right.

Introducing the group is an exceptional Proof 65 example of the rare 1859. There are only two coins from the 1860s present, but what a pair of coins these are. . . a Gem Proof 1863 and the Finest Known business strike 1864.

The later issues include superb Proofs from 1877, 1879, 1880, 1882, 1886 and 1888. Memorable business strikes include Gem or near-Gem examples of the 1880, 1883, 1884, 1885 and 1887.

Each one of these coins was carefully hand selected for superb color, flawless surfaces and exceptional eye appeal. We urge everyone attending the sale to view these pieces, if only to see what genuinely attractive coins should look like.

EXTREMELY RARE PROOF 1859 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 2

111 **1859. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A stunning example of this rare issue. The surfaces are extremely reflective and display lovely rich green gold coloring. The devices are frosted and offer considerable contrast to the mirror surfaces. There is a visible "aura" around Liberty's head, as struck. A tiny toning spot below the U in UNITED serves as identification. This pristine example is tied with a piece which we sold as lot 2399 in our Ebsen Sale (which was later graded Proof 65 by PCGS) as the finest Proof example of this date of which we are aware. Eighty pieces were originally struck, but it is known that only 35 of these were sold to collectors and the rest were subsequently melted. It is estimated that, today, a few as a dozen exist with a number of these coins permanently impounded and yet others ruined by having been harshly cleaned.
Formerly sold in Rarcoa's session of Auction '81 (where it realized $29,500), earlier sold as lot 265 in our session of Auction '79, earlier as lot 128 in Stack's December, 1978 Bareford sale (where it realized $14,000) and, before that, in the Memorable Collection Sale of March 1, 1948

EXTREMELY RARE GEM PROOF 1863 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 2

112 **1863. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A superb original Gem example with exceptional rich cloudy greenish gold coloring on the obverse and on the reverse. Unlike most of the known Proofs of this date, the obverse fields around Liberty's head are not extremely rough and this piece displays, as well, full orange peel texture. The surfaces are free of hairlines and extremely choice. A tiny mint-made lint mark at the left foot in the R in DOLLARS is mentioned for future identification. This is a great rarity; even more so than its tiny original mintage of 39 coins would suggest. A total of perhaps 10 to 12 pieces are still in existence. This date was missing in a comprehensive group of Proofs in our Ebsen Sale and we cannot recall having handled an example since the piece which we sold as lot 1372 in Auction '82.

THE FINEST KNOWN 1864 BUSINESS STRIKE THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 2

113 **1864. Repunched 18. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Were this coin an 1878 Three Dollar Gold Piece it would represent exceptional quality and would be the object of numerous serious bids. The significance of this coin becomes far greater when one realizes it is a very rare date and, furthermore, a date that is notorious for its poor quality of manufacture. Struck on a planchet which shows far less extensive striations than usual. The details are very sharp with each of Liberty's hair strands individually defined and the bow lacking any of the characteristic weakness. The coloring is superb with rich greenish gold coloring deepening to an almost coppery shade in the protected areas of the obverse and the reverse. **This piece is universally acknowledged among collectors to be the finest known business strike of this date.** Only one other piece is known which has claims to a Mint State 65 grade and this has been off the market for a number of years. And, since that coin has not yet been examined by PCGS, it is not certain that it would merit a Mint State 65 grade by today's rigorous standards. In our estimation, this is one of the most important coins in this entire sale.

Formerly sold as lot 406 in Rarcoa's session of Auction '81 where it realized a record price of $27,000

EXTREMELY RARE PROOF 1877 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

114 **1877. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A superb example with a pristine original appearance. Both the obverse and the reverse have toned to a rich orange gold hue and show the cloudiness which is associated with Proof Gold coinage which has never been cleaned or tampered with. The underlying surfaces are reflective and very clean with an absolute minimal amount of granularity and rich orange peel texture. The reverse of this coin is especially Choice and is probably closer, overall, to "Proof 67" in quality. An extremely rare issue with a small original mintage figure of 20 Proofs. Of these, no more than between 10 and 12 exist. This piece is far choicer than the example which we sold as lot 2421 in the Ebsen Sale and we believe that it may be the finest Proof example of this issue which is not impounded.

Formerly sold as lot 303 in the Eliasberg Sale; earlier in John H. Clapp Collection, and obtained by Clapp from "Detroit" in August, 1894

VERY RARE AND UNDERRATED PROOF 1879 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 2

115 **1879. PCGS graded Proof 64.** An exceptional two-tone cameo example. The devices are heavily frosted and strongly contrasted by the deep, mirror-like fields. The obverse fields show a slight amount of roughness around Liberty's head as on virtually all known Proof examples of this date. Otherwise, the surfaces are very clean with an absolute minimum of disturbances noted below magnification. Despite its microscopic mintage of 30 Proofs, this date is actually quite underrated. This is probably due to the fact that many prooflike business strikes are incorrectly offered for sale as Proofs which gives the impression that this coin is more common than it actually is. Approximately 15 or so pieces exist and this is certainly one of the nicest of the survivors.

Formerly sold as lot 1060 in Paramount's May 8, 1976 Sale. The coin realized a then high $7,000

EXCEPTIONAL AND EXTREMELY RARE 1880 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 2

116 **1880. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A stunning coin which is virtually perfect in every respect. Both the obverse and the reverse are covered with a light but extensive orange gold hue. The underlying surfaces are immaculate with a complete absence of hairlines and just the slightest amount of mint-made roughness surrounding the obverse device. The devices are frosted and nicely contrasted by the reflective surfaces. A small coppery toning spot near Liberty's jawline serves as immediate identification. A total of 36 Proofs were struck and survivors are slightly more plentiful than one might expect with approximately 17 to 20 pieces known. However, the great majority of these pieces are either impaired or grade no better than Proof 63. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 3 examples of this date and none were graded better than Proof 63. This is the finest Proof 1880 Three Dollar Gold Piece which we can recall having sold and we feel that it is among the Finest Known.

Formerly sold as lot 1725 in Bowers and Ruddy's Fairfield Sale

GEM BUSINESS STRIKE 1880

See Color Plate 2

117 **1880. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Sharply struck and frosty with slight prooflike tendencies noted on both the obverse and reverse. What makes this coin especially pleasing is its rich orange gold and greenish coloring which deepens to an intense coppery hue at the reverse border. The surfaces are extremely clean with virtual absence of marks. The reverse, in fact, is absolutely superb. This date has always been extremely popular due to its tiny mintage of 1,000 business strikes. It is probable that a small hoard (possibly from the Beck Collection?) existed at one time as there are a number of Mint State survivors; however, the great majority of these grade Mint State 62 to Mint State 64. Examples of this quality are extremely rare as evidenced by the fact the PCGS has only graded one other piece Mint State 65 as of November 1, 1988. Very probably Condition Census and a beautiful coin.

Formerly sold in the Stack's January 29, 1970 Sale

GEM PROOF 1882 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

118 **1882. PCGS graded Proof 65.** A sparkling, flawless Gem Proof with intense orange peel texture noted on both the obverse and reverse. Both sides are mostly untoned and in full brilliance. Below magnification, we note an absence of hairlines and the fields around Liberty's head show virtually none of the roughness associated with Proof Threes. A small coppery toning spot adjacent to Liberty's mouth serves as immediate identification. A total of 76 examples were struck of which approximately three dozen exist. Needless to say, this is a great rarity in this grade and this particular coin is undoubtedly one of the Finest Known survivors. As of November 1, 1988, this is the only piece graded higher than Proof 64 by PCGS.

RARE BORDERLINE GEM 1883 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 2

119 **1883. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Mostly prooflike with considerable areas of mint frost. Both the obverse and the reverse display superb coloring with the centers a pale rose shade and the borders, especially the obverse, a rich greenish gold. The strike is very sharp with a strong wire rim noted. Both the obverse and reverse are quite Choice with just a few tiny marks noted. In terms of overall quality, this is a substantially nicer coin than the example which we sold as lot 5378 in our September, 1988 sale; that piece realized $7,975 which was almost double its low estimate. One of only 900 business strikes produced and a rare coin in the upper ranges of Mint State. As of November 1, 1988, this is 1 of only 2 pieces graded as such by PCGS with none graded higher.
Formerly sold in Bowers and Ruddy's November 11, 1972 sale

VIRTUAL GEM 1884 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 2

120 **1884. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very lustrous with a semi-prooflike obverse and an almost fully-prooflike reverse. Struck in light greenish gold with some deeper orange gold coloring at the reverse center. Quite sharp with just a touch of weakness noted on the curls below IBE in LIBERTY. The obverse shows one small identifying mark below the T in UNITED. The reverse is fully of Gem quality. The comparable specimen which we sold as lot 5381 in our September, 1988 sale realized $9,350. This coin will probably require a five-figure bid. One of 1,000 pieces struck and undoubtedly among the top 10 or so pieces known.

VERY RARE BORDERLINE GEM 1885 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 2

121 **1885. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Premium quality. Very similar in appearance and texture to a Proof and with similar diagnostics but a business strike as evidenced by the presence of frost within the surfaces as well as weakness of strike on the hair strands below IBE in LIBERTY. Both the obverse and reverse display superb rich orange gold and greenish coloring. This coin is exceedingly Choice for the grade and a very strong argument could be made for grading it Mint State 65 as it shows a virtual absence of marks and, to our eyes, is much more attractive than other similarly graded PCGS Three Dollar Gold Pieces. A very rare and desirable date with a ridiculously low mintage of 800 business strikes. It is been a number of years since we have handled a finer example than this piece and we feel that this particular coin is among the Finest Known.
Formerly sold as lot 1361 in Stack's May 18, 1971 Sale

PROOF 1886 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 2

122 **1886. PCGS graded Proof 64.** An extremely attractive and very Choice example which is fully reflective and which has strong orange peel texture on both its obverse and reverse. The surfaces are quite clean with no significant or detracting marks noted to the naked eye; the reverse is especially Choice and is of full Gem quality. A faint but visible obverse toning spot at 7 o'clock serves as immediate identification. A total of 142 Proofs were struck and between 40 and 50 of these exist. A nice "type" coin for the Proof Gold collector and one of only 3 pieces graded as such by PCGS as of November 1, 1988; only one example has been graded higher.

123 **1887. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A sharp even impression with strong detail noted on the obverse. Both the obverse and reverse are very frosty and display nice color; this is especially visible on the obverse which is toned in splashes of very rich orange gold coloring. Both sides show some small, scattered marks which are quite unobtrusive. A total of 6,000 business strikes were produced. High quality examples of this date are not incredibly difficult to locate. Mint State 60 through Mint State 63 pieces are offered with a surprising degree of frequency. However, in Mint State 64 this date becomes very rare and is virtually unobtainable any finer. As of November 1, 1988, this is 1 of 3 pieces graded Mint State 64 by PCGS with only one example graded higher.

GEM PROOF 1888 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

124 **1888. PCGS graded Proof 65.** Diagnostic obverse die rust is visible on Liberty's neck. A superb, late in the year Proof striking with surfaces which display a mixture of mirror-like reflectiveness and frost. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in superb yellow gold coloring. The reflective fields are free of hairlines although we do note some mint-made roughness on the obverse as struck. While this is probably the single "easiest" Three Dollar Gold Piece to locate in Proof 65, no date in this series can realistically be called "common" in this grade. One of a total of 291 Proofs struck.

Liberty Head Half Eagles

The selection of Half Eagles in this part of the sale will, admittedly, appear to be a "weak link" after the number of Condition Census and Finest Known coins which comprise the Gold Dollars and the Three Dollar Gold Piece.

However, there are a few significant examples in this group. Among Liberty Head Half Eagles, there is one of the Finest Known examples of the extremely rare Proof 1877. Another important Liberty Head Eagle is the 1893 PCGS graded Mint State 68. Although a common date it is extremely rare in such high quality. Also included are a number of extremely pleasing and affordable type coins for the collector as well as a Gem 1907-D.

There are only three Indian Head Half Eagles in this sale, but two of them are quite important: a Gem Proof 1908 and a Mint State 65 1909.

EXCEPTIONALLY RARE PROOF 1877 HALF EAGLE

125 **1877. PCGS graded Proof 64.** An absolutely breathtaking cameo example with the extremely heavily frosted obverse device given strong contrast by the deep mirror fields. The surfaces display an intense orange peel texture and are overlaid with lovely medium cloudy orange gold toning which deepens to a rich coppery shade at parts of the reverse edge. The surfaces are especially Choice and this piece certainly has the appearance of most "raw" or "slabbed" examples which are graded Proof 65. A superb match to the similarly dated Quarter Eagle and Three Dollar Gold Piece offered earlier in this sale. These three coins have been together for over 50 years and it truly seems a shame to have to break them apart. One of only 20 Proofs struck; as few as 8 to 10 still exist with at least two permanently impounded, two more included in tightly-held private collections and one or two other pieces grading no better than Proof 60. One of the rarest and most significant Proof gold coins in this sale.

Formerly sold as lot 542 in the Eliasberg Sale where it realized $20,900; before that in the John H. Clapp Collection and obtained by Clapp from the David S. Wilson Collection sold by S. H. Chapman in March, 1907

MINT STATE 68 1893 HALF EAGLE

126 **1893. PCGS graded Mint State 68.** This is among the finest Liberty Head Half Eagles which we have ever seen. The strike is incredibly sharp with every fine detail up and bold. What makes this coin so impressive, however, is its gorgeous satiny mint lustre and beautiful pale orange gold coloring which deepens to a light green gold at the borders. Even under intense scrutiny, the surfaces approach absolute perfection. Coins of this denomination and type just are not supposed to come as nice as this. With the exception of the "direct from the Mint" San Francisco pieces included in the Eliasberg Sale, this is probably the finest single coin of this type ever to appear at public auction. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had graded 1 other coin of this type Mint State 68 and 2 other coins Mint State 69. For the collector who is seeking the absolute finest quality for his type set, this piece should prove irresistible.

127 **1901. First 1 in date strongly doubled to the left at its base. Breen-6778 where described as "very scarce." PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Sharply struck with excellent lustre. There is a splash of rich coloring at the eighth star.

128 **1902-S. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Satiny and sharply struck with even orange gold coloring.

129 **1902-S. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Similar in quality to the last but this piece is a deeper greenish gold color.

130 **1903-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A sharply struck borderline Gem example with excellent lustre and surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse have a lovely greenish gold coloring.

131 **1903-S. PCGS graded Mint State 62.**

132 **1905. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Fully struck and very frosty with superb rich greenish gold coloring. The obverse shows a few light marks while the reverse is of gem quality.

133 **1905. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Another very pleasing borderline Gem example. This piece has velvety surfaces with just a few small marks visible below even natural greenish gold coloring. While this will probably sell as a "common date," it is actually considerably rarer in this grade than a 1901-S, 1907 or 1908.

134 **1907. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Quite well struck and slightly prooflike.

GEM UNCIRCULATED 1907-D HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

135 **1907-D. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Fully struck and frosty with pleasing greenish gold coloring and impeccable surfaces. Always popular and in demand as the final Denver Liberty Head Half Eagle. In addition, this date is surprisingly rare and very underrated in Mint State 65. As of November 1, 1988, only 5 other pieces had been graded as such by PCGS with only 1 piece graded higher.

Indian Head Half Eagles

GEM MATTE PROOF 1908 HALF EAGLE

136 **1908. PCGS graded Proof 65.** Struck in a dark matte finish characteristic to this date and with much above-average coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are a fairly light olive shade with pale orange undertones noted. There is one extremely fine scratch below the Indian's nose; the reverse is virtually perfect. A total of 167 pieces were struck. Akers estimates that 50 to 60 are known. Obviously, just a handful can compare to the quality of this piece.

137 **1908. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Very sharply struck and frosty with nice rich orange gold and greenish coloring. An unusual and interesting "error slab" as this coin's holder indicates that is of the "Liberty" type. Obviously, it is not.

GEM 1909 HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

138 **1909. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** An absolute full strike with every fine detail at the centers up and bold. The surfaces are very clean and frosty with delightful pale rose and greenish gold coloring. While this date is, admittedly, extremely common in the lower ranges of Mint State, it is genuinely rare in this grade. In his excellent new work on 20th Century United States Gold coinage, David Akers states that the 1909 Half Eagle is "Very Rare" in Mint State 65 and assigns it an overall rating of Low Rarity-7. A rare and beautiful coin for the type collector or the date collector and one of only 4 pieces graded as such by PCGS as of November 1, 1988.

139 **1909-D. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Very sharply struck and lustrous with beautiful coloring. The obverse is extremely Choice and is actually a full Mint State 64 quality but the reverse shows some light, scattered marks in the fields.

Liberty Head Eagle

140 **1901-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** An outstanding type coin which is fully struck and which displays exceptional lustre. Both the obverse and reverse are a rich orange gold color with some slightly deeper greenish hues forming at the borders. The obverse shows a few truly insignificant marks in the fields while the reverse is absolutely superb. The 1901-S is easily the most common date of this type in higher grades but, as most type collectors can readily attest, no Liberty Head Eagle is easy to locate in Mint State 65.

Indian Head Eagles

GEM 1908 WITH MOTTO EAGLE

141 **1908. With Motto. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A lovely, sharply struck example with beautiful satiny surfaces which are enhanced by rich orange gold and greenish coloring. The surfaces are virtually perfect with the exception of one mark which is located on the feather above the T in LIBERTY; were it not for this mark, this coin would grade, at the very least, Mint State 66. The 1908 With Motto Eagle is common in the lower ranges of Mint State but in Mint State 65 it is quite rare.

The Incomparable 1908-S Eagle

Lot 142

THE FINEST KNOWN 1908-S EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

142 **1908-S. PCGS graded Mint State 68.** In terms of condition, this is the unquestioned highlight of this entire sale. The strike is sharper than on any Indian Head Eagle of any date that we have seen. The color, an even medium gold, is splendid while the lustre must be seen to be believed. Most remarkable is the fact that, even under intense scrutiny, the incredibly satiny surfaces are as close to perfect as one could imagine. While the color picture of this coin will give some idea of its quality, it must be viewed in person to be fully appreciated. In his reference work on 20th Century United States Gold coins, **David Akers states that this exact piece is the Finest Known 1908-S Eagle.** We have only seen 2 other Indian Head Eagles of any date which approached this piece in terms of quality: the Marty Haber 1908 With Motto which was sold in Paramount's session of Auction '88 (and graded Mint State 68 by NGC) and the 1911-D which was sold as lot 2313 in Part 2 of Bowers and Merena's Norweb Collection Sale of March, 1988. Which of these 3 coins is the finest? It would be difficult to state this as each coin has a number of characteristics in its favor. We had the pleasure of examining the other two coins carefully and we feel that this particular coin is the finest of the three. This piece will unquestionably set a record price for an Indian Head Eagle.

Formerly sold as lot 41 in Paramount's September 14, 1981 Sale and part of the fabulous Robert E. Kruthoffer, Jr. Collection

See Color Plate 2

143 **1909-S. Normal mintmark. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Extremely well struck and with decidedly above-average lustre for the date. Both the obverse and reverse display rich rose coloring atop deep golden surfaces. The obverse shows a few very inconsequential marks while the reverse is superb. This piece is from the small hoard which was discovered in South America in the mid-1970's. Unlike the great majority of those coins, this piece is quite clean and, in all probability, it is one of the nicest pieces from that group. The 1909-S is a rare date in any level of Mint State. Most examples grade from Mint State 60 to Mint State 63 and pieces of Mint State 64 quality are very rare. This piece is tied with 4 other coins as the finest 1909-S Eagle to have been graded by PCGS as of November 1, 1988. An important coin.

144 **1910-D. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** An extremely well struck coin which shows fully defined curls below BERT in LIBERTY. The lustre is excellent and the coloring, a medium orange gold which deepens to greenish gold at the border, is especially pleasing. The surfaces are very clean with just a handful of minuscule marks noted below magnification. This piece is extremely Choice for the grade. A lovely type coin.
Note: Scratch is on holder not on coin.

SUPERB GEM PROOF 1912 EAGLE

145 **1912. PCGS graded Proof 66.** Struck in the attractive fine sandblast finish which is characteristic of both the 1912 and 1913 Proof Gold coinage. In our opinion, the Proof Gold coinage from 1912 is the most attractive single issue of any of the dates struck in this finish from 1908 to 1915. This is due to the unique rich yellowish coloring. One look at this coin should explain our rationale. The coloring is exquisite. The surfaces of this coin approach perfection with no shiny spots, marks or breaks of the lustre visible to the naked eye. In terms of overall quality, this piece compares very favorably to the Gem 1914 which we sold as lot 5657 in our September, 1988 Sale. That piece realized $44,000. A total of 83 Proofs were struck; it is estimated that 20 to 25 of these still exist. This piece is one of the Finest Known.

The Finest 1913-S Eagle Ever Offered For Sale At Auction

Lot 146

THE FABULOUS 1913-S EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

146 **1913-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** An incredible example of what is unquestionably the rarest individual date of this series in Mint State 65. The strike is exceedingly sharp and, in that regard, closely rivals the incomparable 1908-S previously offered. The feather detail on the reverse is unbelievable for this date. The surfaces display amazing lustre and are nearly free of marks. In fact, the obverse is easily a full Mint State 66 (or better). In his new work on 20th Century United States Gold coinage, David Akers states that a piece owned by Harry Bass grades "Mint State 67 or better." This example most certainly would have graded Mint State 67 or better several years ago. By today's stricter grading standards, as event by the grade deemed from PCGS (Mint State 65), until both coins can be compared side by side it would be impossible to state which one is the Finest Known. As the Bass coin is, for all intents and purposes, permanently off the market, this particular coin is the finest 1913-S Eagle which is available to collectors. Like the 1908-S in this sale, this piece will unquestionably set a record price.

Formerly sold as lot 54 in Paramount's September 14, 1981 Sale of the Robert E. Kruthoffer, Jr. Collection where it realized $46,000

The Finest Known 1915-S Eagle

Lot 148

147 **1915. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Very well struck and frosty with excellent coloring and surfaces. The obverse shows a few light marks while the reverse is very choice. A bit of a comedown after the last lot (and obviously destined to be overshadowed by the next lot) but still a pleasing piece which should be of considerable interest to the type collector.

THE FINEST KNOWN 1915-S EAGLE

See Color Plate 2

148 **1915-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Extremely well struck with absolutely unbelievable lustre; the "typical" example of this date has a somewhat grainy appearance but this piece is more reminiscent of a Philadelphia coin than a San Francisco coin. What makes this coin particularly impressive, however, is its extraordinary color which is a blend of rich orange and deep green gold. The lustre is unimprovable and this piece has infinitely more eye appeal than any 1915-S Eagle which we have ever seen. This is the third rarest San Francisco Eagle, trailing only the 1913-S and the 1920-S. In this grade, the 1915-S is extremely rare. This particular coin is described in the new Akers book on 20th Century United States Gold coins as being ". . .the best, or at the least the prettiest, I have seen. . ." We have had the pleasure of handling a few very high quality examples of this date which we have sold by private treaty but none of these could compare to this superb coin. A truly important Eagle.

Formerly sold as lot 59 in Paramount's September 14, 1981 Sale of the Robert E. Kruthoffer, Jr. Collection where it realized $29,000

See Color Plate 2

149 **1926. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Sharply struck and very frosty with nice surfaces and color. While this is the second most common date of this type in the upper ranges of Mint State, the 1926 is much more difficult to acquire than a 1932.

See Color Plate 2

150 **1932. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Struck in rich orange gold and with excellent lustre. Both the obverse and reverse are quite clean with the former side of virtual Gem quality.

151 **1932. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** An especially pleasing coin for the grade with nice orange gold and greenish coloring which is accentuated by a splash of rosy frost at the center of the obverse. Again, the surfaces are very clean with far fewer marks than generally seen on coins of this type.

152 **1932. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A very clean, sharply struck and frosty example whose light orange gold coloring is greatly enhanced by splashes of rose at the centers.

153 **1932. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Another very Choice and original example of this popular type coin. This piece has a Gem quality obverse but shows a few marks at the reverse center.

See Color Plate 3

154 **1932. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A premium quality example with superb lustre and rich orange gold coloring. The surfaces are quite clean and this piece offers strong claims to a higher grade.

155 **1932. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Sharply struck and frosty with nice color and good surfaces for the grade.

156 **1932. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Outstanding glowing orange gold coloring.

157 **1932. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** The last example in this interesting offering of 1932 Eagles and another very pleasing coin. This piece has rich orange gold coloring with a few coppery spots on the reverse. The lustre and surfaces are excellent for the grade.

Liberty Head Double Eagles

TIED FOR FINEST KNOWN
1897-S DOUBLE EAGLE

158 **1897-S. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** The last coin added to this collection and described in David Akers' session of Auction '88 (where offered as lot 849) as follows: "An amazing quality coin for a Liberty Head Double Eagle. It is boldly struck with superb satiny surfaces, radiant mint lustre and fabulous, original light to medium gold toning. The reverse is essentially perfect, the all-important obverse very nearly so. Only the Eliasberg specimen that was obtained by John Clapp directly from the Mint at face value in 1897 compares to this coin in overall quality. (Actually few Liberty Head 20's of any date can match this coin; it is that nice.) Obtained by Mr. Haber from a Pennsylvania dealer who purchased the coin over-the-counter in a store from a non-numismatic source. The 1897-S Double Eagle is a comparatively common issue in the lower Mint State grades (MS-63 or less) but true Gems are genuinely rare. Better than MS-65, the population drops off to almost nothing save for this coin, the Eliasberg specimen and perhaps one or two others that we are not aware of."

This superb piece realized $30,800 in its last auction appearance

159 **1900. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Premium quality. Fully struck and satiny with superb orange gold toning on the obverse and reverse. The obverse is just a few marks shy of Gem quality while the reverse is superb. While this date invariably sells for a "common" price, it is many times rarer than a 1904 in this grade.

160 **1904. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very slightly prooflike with excellent color. The obverse shows a few tiny marks while the reverse is of Gem quality.

161 **1904. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Frosty and well struck with attractive even orange gold color.

162 **1904. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A premium quality borderline Gem with lovely color and lustre. The reverse is superb.

163 **1904. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Quite sharply struck and lustrous with pleasing greenish gold splashes over orange gold coloring.

164 **1904. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Premium quality. Excellent lustre and semi-reflective surfaces.

165 **1904. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Well struck. Both the obverse and reverse are toned to a rich even greenish gold.

166 **1904-S. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** The obverse shows some scattered marks while the reverse is very choice.

St. Gaudens Double Eagles

167 **1907. High Relief. Roman Numerals (MCMVII). Wire rim variety. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Very sharply struck with lovely rich greenish gold coloring which changes to a bright rose hue along the obverse device. The surfaces are very clean with a virtual absence of marks noted to the naked eye. The rims are also very clean with none of the typically seen bumps or bruises. This is a very pleasing and absolutely original coin which represents extremely Choice quality for the grade.

See Color Plate 3

168 **1907. High Relief Roman Numerals (MCMVII). Wire rim variety. PCGS graded Mint State 62.** Quite sharply struck and lustrous with coloring which is very similar to the last coin with the exception of the aforementioned rose color at the obverse center. An otherwise very pleasing coin which is downgraded by the presence of a scratch in the left obverse field; the reverse is extremely choice.

169 **1907. Arabic Numerals. No Motto. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Well struck for the issue with especially sharp details noted at the obverse center. Very clean and lustrous with rich rose and greenish gold coloring. The surfaces are outstanding and lack the severe abrasions which characterize 1907 Double Eagles. This issue is extremely common in the lower ranges of Mint State but in this grade, it is genuinely rare. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 14 other examples as such with none graded higher.

170 **1907. Arabic numberals. No Motto. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A nice, sharp strike with good lustre and color. There is a small mark to the right of Liberty's head. Otherwise, this piece is of virtual Gem quality.

See Color Plate 3

171 **1908. No Motto. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Premium quality. Superb color and lustre. There are a few light marks on the obverse while the reverse is of Gem quality.

172 **1909-S. Double punched mintmark; Breen 7375; this variety is described as "very rare." PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A sharp, even impression for the date with very strong detail noted in the centers. The surfaces are frosty and clean with lovely rose toning noted on both the obverse and reverse. This is a somewhat scarce and underrated date in this grade and a coin which is difficult to find choicer.

173 **1909-S. Normal mintmark. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Another very sharply struck example; this with rich orange gold coloring and soft rose overtones at the centers.

A TRIO OF BORDERLINE GEM 1910-S DOUBLE EAGLES

See Color Plate 3

174 **1910-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck and frosty with lovely orange gold, pale green and rose coloring. Both the obverse and reverse show just a few small marks. This date is scarce and very underrated in this grade. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded a total of 7 examples in Mint State 64 (3 of which are in this sale!) and only 2 coins were graded higher than this.

175 **1910-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very similar in quality and appearance to the last example. As with many examples of this date, the rims are very slightly rounded, as struck.

176 **1910-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** This third and final example is especially well struck with superb lustre and coloring. The obverse is virtual Gem quality while the reverse shows a few small marks at the center.

177 **1911. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** Premium quality. Very sharply struck and frosty with lovely medium green gold coloring which is a bit more pronounced on the obverse than the reverse. The surfaces are extremely clean. There is a small obverse rim mark at 2:30 o'clock; we assume that this is the reason that this coin was not graded Mint State 64 or higher. A rare and very underrated date in this grade and an issue which is quite difficult to locate choicer.

See Color Plate 3

178 **1911-D. Normal mintmark. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck and lustrous with superb bright orange gold and greenish coloring on the obverse and reverse.

179 **1913-D. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Sharply struck with superb satiny lustre which is further enhanced by rich orange gold and pale rose coloring. We note just a few tiny marks scattered here and there about the surfaces. A fairly scarce and much underrated date in this grade.

VERY RARE GEM 1914 DOUBLE EAGLE

180 **1914. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A fully struck Gem with beautiful rich orange gold coloring which shades slightly to greenish gold on the obverse. Despite a few small marks, the surfaces are remarkably clean for the date. For many years, the 1914 Double Eagle carried only a small premium in Mint State 65. In recent years, however, most collectors have learned just how rare this date is in this grade. In fact, as of November 1, 1988, this is only 1 of 2 pieces that have been graded as such by PCGS with no examples having been graded higher. An important coin and a fantastic opportunity for the advanced date collector.

181 **1914-D. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A sharply struck and frosty Double Eagle with lovely bright orange gold coloring.

See Color Plate 3

182 **1914-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A blazing Gem example with outstanding surfaces and coloring. The surfaces are satiny and very clean. Due to the presence of two large hoards dispersed between 1978 and 1983, this date is extremely common in the lower ranges of Mint State. In Mint State 65 the 1914-S Double Eagle is very scarce and underrated. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 10 other examples Mint State 65 with just one piece having been graded higher.

See Color Plate 3

183 **1915-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** An average struck specimen with a bit of weakness noted at the reverse border; the centers are quite sharp. Both the obverse and reverse are satiny and lack the shiny areas often seen on the examples of this date. A bit of deep toning rests atop Liberty's head.

See Color Plate 3

184 **1915-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** An average struck specimen with some flattening of the reverse rim noted. The surfaces are quite frosty with superb rich orange gold toning noted on the obverse and the reverse.

185 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A beautiful, premium quality Gem example with outstanding color, lustre and surfaces. This date is fairly easy to acquire in the upper ranges of Mint State due to the presence of a large hoard which was uncovered in Central America in 1983. However, specimens of this quality are not seen with great a degree of frequency.

186 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** This second Gem example is very similar in quality and appearance to the last. This piece has lovely rich orange golden coloring and outstanding surfaces.

187 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Another sharply struck and satiny Gem example with rich obverse and reverse coloring.

188 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** This fourth Gem example is particularly clean. Both the obverse and reverse have a rich medium orange gold coloring. A Double Eagle with legitimate eye appeal.

189 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** This fifth Gem example has a slightly different surface texture than the last four coins. In addition, it shows substantially lighter coloring with pale orange gold toning accentuated by underlying splashes of rose.

190 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A sixth Gem example. This is well struck and lustrous with nice coloring and surfaces.

191 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A seventh Gem example. This piece is particularly well struck and lustrous with excellent surfaces and color.

192 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** An eighth Gem example. This piece has a frosty obverse and a somewhat satiny reverse. Both sides are immaculate with splendid orange gold coloring which changes to green gold on the reverse.

193 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A ninth Gem example. This piece has similar coloring to the last with the exception of a small coppery toning spot on the obverse rim at 5 o'clock.

194 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** The tenth and final Gem example of this unprecedented offering. The date or type collector should certainly be able to find a suitable example of this date within this group.

195 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A premium quality piece with excellent lustre and color.

196 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** An obverse cut on Liberty's left leg is virtually all that keeps this coin from a higher grade.

197 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Clean and frosty with outstanding color and surfaces.

198 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Both the obverse and reverse show pale orange gold and greenish coloring.

199 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Another borderline Gem example; this with rich, frosty lustre and lovely quality. The reverse is of Gem quality.

200 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Bright and lustrous.

201 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Somewhat satiny with impressive orange gold coloring. The obverse of gem quality.

202 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Fully struck and lustrous with good color.

203 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** The obverse is very Choice while the reverse shows some marks.

204 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** The obverse is extremely Choice while the reverse shows some light marks at the center.

205 **1916-S. PCGS graded Mint State 63.** A Choice coin for the grade.

RARE BORDERLINE GEM 1922-S DOUBLE EAGLE

See Color Plate 3

206 **1922-S. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** An uncharacteristically sharp strike for the issue which lacks the pronounced reverse die bulge which is so common to this issue. Both the obverse and reverse are quite frosty with beautiful light orange gold coloring which is highlighted by pale rose overtones on the reverse. The surfaces are quite sharp with just a few small marks noted. As has been related numerous times, until the early 1950's this date was one of the rarest of all Double Eagles. But in the past 40 or so years, a number of hoards have turned up. While this date is reasonably easy to obtain in the lower ranges of Mint State, we feel that it is still legitimately rare in Mint State 64 and extremely rare in Mint State 65. Our sentiments are verified by the fact that as of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 2 other examples of this date Mint State 64 and no pieces had been graded Mint State 65.

207 **1924. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Premium quality. A lovely, satiny gem with virtually mark-free surfaces and superb coloring.

208 **1924. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Sharply struck and frosty with beautiful orange gold coloring. We note a few coppery toning spots at the center of the reverse.

209 **1924. PCGS graded Mint State 63.**

210 **1925. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Sharply struck and frosty with bright pink centers which are framed by rich orange gold borders. A few copper hued toning spots are scattered about the reverse. A lovely example of this popular common issue.

211 **1925. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A second fully struck Gem with superb color. On this piece, some coppery toning spots are noted on both the obverse and reverse.

See Color Plate 3

212 **1925. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Premium quality. Just a few small marks are noted on the obverse while the reverse is of Gem quality. Both sides exhibit excellent color and lustre.

See Color Plate 3

213 **1926. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A frosty Gem with exquisite orange gold color which deepens to rose at the obverse center and at RTY in LIBERTY. While this date is generally lumped with 1924-1928, it is actually significantly scarcer. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 85 examples of this date in Mint State 65 as compared with 1,061 examples of the 1924.

214 **1927. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Superb color and lustre. Always in great demand among type collectors.

215 **1927. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Frosty and free of significant marks. The obverse and reverse show pleasing rich orange gold coloring.

See Color Plate 3

216 **1927. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** This third frosty Gem example has light to medium greenish gold coloring.

See Color Plate 3

217 **1927. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A few light marks at the centers keep this coin from an otherwise deserved Gem grade.

Gold Commemoratives

SUPERB GEM 1903 JEFFERSON GOLD DOLLAR

218 **1903. Louisiana Purchase Jefferson Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** A stunning, virtually flawless coin with exquisite satiny lustre and beautiful pale greenish gold coloring. Very sharply struck and absolutely original. A few coppery toning spots are located at the lower part of the reverse and give this coin even greater eye appeal.

SUPER GEM 1903 MCKINLEY DOLLAR

219 **1903. Louisiana Purchase McKinley Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** Very sharply struck and lustrous with bright orange gold toning changing to pale rose at the centers. The surfaces display a few light striations, as struck, but are otherwise very clean with a bit of prooflike reflectiveness noted on the obverse. A decidedly rarer coin in this grade than the 1903 Jefferson and 1 of just 7 graded as such by PCGS as of November 1, 1988.

220 **1903. Louisiana Purchase McKinley Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Premium quality. This piece is actually as nice as the specimen graded Mint State 66 offered above. It is very frosty and well struck with superb rich orange gold coloring. The surfaces are nearly flawless although the rims show some die deterioration, as struck. A few light coppery toning spots are visible on the obverse and reverse.

221 **1903. Louisiana Purchase McKinley Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** A virtual Gem example with premium lustre and lovely coloring. The obverse is unmarked with the reverse shows a tiny mark below the 8 in the date.

VERY RARE SUPERB GEM 1904 LEWIS & CLARK GOLD DOLLAR

222 **1904. Lewis & Clark Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** A breathtakingly beautiful example of this rare issue. The surfaces are exceedingly frosty and bathed in rich orange gold coloring. Even below magnification, we fail to note a single mark which actually breaks into the planchet. While this issue is actually slightly overrated in Mint State 64, examples of this quality are extremely rare. As of November 1, 1988, PCGS had only graded 4 examples Mint State 66 of which 2 are in this sale!

A SECOND SUPERB GEM 1904 LEWIS & CLARK

223 **1904. Lewis & Clark Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** A very unusual coin as it displays pronounced clash marks at the centers. The coloring and lustre of this coin are simply fantastic, as are the surfaces. We have handled just a few comparable examples in all of our years of conducting rare coin auction sales.

See Color Plate 3

224 **1904. Lewis & Clark Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Semi-prooflike with rich bright orange gold coloring on the obverse and reverse. Both sides are extremely clean and vibrant and this coin is extremely close in quality to the 2 pieces graded Mint State 66 offered above.

See Color Plate 3

225 **1905. Lewis & Clark Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck and frosty with attractive orange gold coloring which deepens to pale green gold at the borders. A few infinitesimal obverse marks narrowly keep this coin from an otherwise-deserved higher grade. This is a scarce issue in this grade and Gems are extremely difficult to locate.

226 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Premium quality. A delightful original Gem example with rich lustre and color. The reverse of this coin approaches absolute perfection. In our experience, this issue is among the more underrated of all Commemorative Gold Dollars in Mint State 65.

227 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A lovely example which displays intense orange gold coloring on the obverse; the reverse is a similar hue with a splash of coppery color at the center.

228 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very Choice with nice color and lustre. There is a small mint-made mark on the laborer's chin; otherwise this coin is of Gem quality.

229 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Quarter Eagle. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Well detailed and frosty with even medium orange gold toning on the obverse and reverse. The surfaces are unmarked and show less pronounced raised die swirls than often seen.

230 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Quarter Eagle. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** An extremely well struck and frosty coin with pleasing medium orange gold color. There are a few tiny marks to the left of the 1 in date; otherwise, this coin is very impressive.

231 **1916. McKinley Memorial Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A frosty Gem with lovely rose color at the centers; this is framed by rich greenish tints at the borders.

232 **1917. McKinley Memorial Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** A coin with absolutely devastating rich natural coloring. The lustre is far above-average, as are the surfaces. In this grade, the 1917 McKinley Gold Dollar is one of the rarest of all Gold Commemoratives.

A MINT STATE 67 GRANT WITH STAR GOLD DOLLAR

233 **1922. Grant With Star Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 67.** A very late Die State with two strong reverse die cracks visible. Quite simply, the finest example of this issue which we have ever seen or handled. The surfaces are absolutely immaculate and display unimprovable lustre and glowing golden coloring. Out of the thousands of Gold Commemoratives which PCGS has graded in its two years of existence, this is the only piece—regardless of denomination—to have been graded Mint State 67. Certainly the highlight of this group and a coin which should set a record price for the issue.

234 **1922. Grant With Star Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** Not quite as Choice as the last piece, but still an exceptional example with lovely color and lustre. This has lighter somewhat greenish gold hues with a coppery toning spot on Grant's forehead.

235 **1922. Grant With Star Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 66.** A much earlier Die State than the last two coins as evidenced by the lack of any cracks on the reverse. This piece is very frosty and sharp with, again, exceptional coloring. At current price levels, Gold Commemoratives of this quality are extremely good values.

236 **1922. Grant Without Star Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 65.** Premium quality. Sharply struck and frosty with magnificent deep orange gold coloring changes to rich rosy tints at the centers. In Mint State 65, this variety is about twice as rare as the "With Star."

237 **1922. Grant Without Star Gold Dollar. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Premium quality. Frosty and very clean with strong claims to a Gem grade.

238 **1926. Sesquicentennial Quarter Eagle. PCGS graded Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck and frosty with superb color and lustre. Unlike virtually all examples of this issue, the centers are not riddled with small marks. A scarce coin which is extremely difficult to locate choicer than this.

Gold Dollars, Type 1

VERY RARE PROOF 1849 GOLD DOLLAR WITH BREEN CERTIFICATION

See Color Plate 3

239 **1849. Small head without L on neck. Open Wreath. Concave fields. Brilliant Proof 65.** Accompanied by Walter Breen authentication papers which read as follows: "This certifies that I have examined the accompanying coin, and that I have compared it with others of this kind, and that I unhesitatingly declare it an authentic 1849 Type I Proof Gold Dollar (small head, no L). The coin in every particular matches other Proofs of this issue: surfaces, die state, die identity, striking quality. It is superior to the specimen in ANS or to the scratched piece I formerly owned, (later, owned by Lester Merkin, most recently in Kagin's Sale of the 70's, lot 1497). It is an exact match for the coin in Norman Stack's type set. To date, nine or ten are traced, of which two are in museums and two in a Philadelphia estate."

A SECOND PROOF 1849 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 3

240 **1849. Small head without L on neck. Open Wreath. Proof 64.** Formerly sold as lot 795 in Auction '84 and there described as follows: "An outstanding coin with rich golden orange toning, deep mirror fields (concave on the obverse as all are), a few lint marks (as made) and only a few light hairlines. Superb natural Proof brilliance and lustre. This coin is altogether different from a business strike in overall appearance. . .and can easily can be distinguished as a true Proof at first glance. For a United States Proof Gold coin of this early period, the quality of this coin is quite exceptional. . ." We should add that the appearance of two Proof 1849 Gold Dollars in one auction is probably a first in the history of United States numismatics. A beautiful and very special coin.

241 **1849. Large head with L on neck, heavy date. Open Wreath. Mint State 63.** The obverse is satiny and somewhat prooflike while the reverse is frosty. A very sharply struck coin with excellent detail and complementary rich greenish gold coloring. The surfaces are quite clean and this piece is extremely attractive for the grade.

CONDITION CENSUS CHOICE UNCIRCULATED 1849-D GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 3

242 **1849-D. Mint State 64.** An amazingly sharp strike for this date with absolutely no weakness noted on Liberty's hair. The corresponding central reverse is also quite bold. The obverse is prooflike around the device and frosty at the border; the reverse tends more towards satiny lustre. Both sides display superb light greenish gold coloring and the surfaces are quite clean with the exception of some mint-made clash marks, die cracks and raised die polishing marks. The only significantly finer example of this popular first-year-of-issue which we have seen is the superb Amato-Montgomery which was last sold in Auction '84. This piece is easily of Condition Census quality and may rate as high as the third or fourth Finest Known. An important coin.

TIED FOR SECOND FINEST KNOWN 1850-D GOLD DOLLAR

243 **1850-D. Mint State 63.** An absolutely remarkable strike for this issue with the centers showing by far the best definition which we have ever seen on an 1850-D Gold Dollar. Most examples of this issue are extremely soft; particularly at the reverse center. This piece is frosty and vibrant with lovely medium orange gold coloring which deepens at the reverse borders. The surfaces are extremely clean with the only describable mark being a very faint scratch below the truncation of the neck. This piece is tied with one other Mint State 63 example as the second Finest Known Gold Dollar. As the Finest Known is, for all intents and purposes, permanently off the market, this piece is the finest example of this date which is currently available to collectors.

244 **1851. Mint State 63.** Sharply struck and original with pleasing medium greenish gold coloring atop choice, frosty surfaces.

GEM 1851-C GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 3

245 **1851-C. Mint State 65.** Very early Die State with four clash marks within the Wreath and no die breaks at the tops of OF AM. An absolutely remarkable strike which would be the envy of many Philadelphia issues of this date. The surfaces are satiny and very slightly reflective with superb rich yellow gold coloring which changes to a pale greenish gold at the edges. The surfaces are extremely clean with no marks which actually enter the planchet; a bit of mint-made roughness is visible behind Liberty's head but this in no way detracts from the quality of this piece. The 1851-C Gold Dollar is the only Charlotte Mint issue of this denomination which is occasionally available in higher grades. We believe that approximately 6 or 7 pieces are known which grade Mint State 65 (or better) by current standards. This piece is exceeded among recent offerings only by the incomparable Norweb II lot 1861 coin which sold to a dealer for $20,900 and was later resold for an even higher figure.

Obtained via private treaty by the consignor from Steve Ivy in October, 1976

VERY RARE CHOICE UNCIRCULATED 1851-D

246 **1851-D. Repunched 1 and 5 in date. Mint State 63.** An extremely sharp strike despite the presence of pronounced clash marks on both the obverse and the reverse. The centers are extremely sharp with Liberty's hair fully defined and no weakness whatsoever on either the date or value. The surfaces are frosty with a touch of semi-prooflike reflectiveness noted on the reverse. Both sides display exquisite orange gold coloring which covers surfaces that show only a few tiny marks. This date is notorious for showing very poor quality planchets; this piece is a welcome exception and has as much aesthetic appeal as any 1851-D Gold Dollar which we can recall having seen. A very rare coin in this grade and almost certainly one of the Finest Known.

Formerly sold as lot 473 in Stack's December, 1972 sale of the Lloyd Myers Collection where it realized $975

247 **1852. Mint State 65.** A splendid Gem example which is fully struck and frosty with beautiful pale rose toning atop medium orange gold. The surfaces are undisturbed and particularly vibrant. A most attractive coin which should be of considerable interest to the type collector who is searching for a premium quality Type 1 Gold Dollar.

248 **1852. Mint State 65.** A second lovely Gem example of this popular date. This piece is equally well struck and every bit as clean as the last. On this example, the obverse is a light orange gold while the reverse is somewhat deeper in hue with some coppery shadings forming at the center and right border.

THE FINEST KNOWN CHARLOTTE MINT GOLD DOLLAR OF ANY DATE

See Color Plate 4

249 **1852-C. Mint State 65+ or better.** Easily the Finest Known example of this date and a coin about which David Akers wrote (in his description in Auction '81, where this piece was sold as lot 1328), "**Not only is this the finest 1852-C Gold Dollar we have ever seen or heard of, but is also the choicest Mint coin of any date or denomination that we have encountered.**" This exact coin is also listed as the Finest Known 1852-C Gold Dollar in Douglas Winter's book *Charlotte Mint Gold Coins: 1838-1861.* What makes this coin so special is its awesome coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are an intense orange gold hue which must be seen in person to be truly appreciated. Both the obverse and the reverse show exceptional detail; what appears to be weakness at the second L in DOLLAR is a diagnostic reverse defect which is found on virtually all known examples of this date. The underlying surfaces are mostly prooflike and are tantalizingly close to perfection. A few small clash marks are visible around Liberty's head and actually add further to the "eye appeal" of this piece. In its prior auction appearance, this coin realized $27,000. In today's market, where exceptional quality and genuine rarity are more highly appreciated, this coin deserves to bring considerably more. In our opinion, this piece is one of the most significant coins in this remarkable collection of Gold Dollars.

Formerly sold as lot 1328 in Auction '81

250 **1853. Mint State 65.** A sharply struck Gem with superb color and surfaces. The obverse is absolutely magnificent with an almost total absence of marks and a blush of rosy frost at the centers; the reverse shows a few light clash marks within the Wreath but is otherwise unmarked and similarly toned. The most common date of this type and, as such, an excellent type coin.

251 **1853. Mint State 64.** Quite sharply struck and lustrous with even orange gold coloring. There is a small coppery toning spot immediately adjacent to the top of Liberty's hair bun which serves as identification.

252 **1853. Mint State 63.** Frosty and original. Well struck and with nice coloring.

THE SECOND FINEST KNOWN 1853-D GOLD DOLLAR

253 **1853-D. Mint State 63.** A remarkably well-struck Dahlonega Gold Dollar. This is obviously one of the first 1853-D Gold Dollars struck as it shows absolutely no evidence of the ubiquitous die clashing as well as the number of raised die scratches (from polishing of the dies) at Liberty's throat and across much of the reverse. Struck in characteristic yellow and greenish gold with rich satiny lustre. The quality of the planchet is equal to the quality of the strike with absolutely none of the typical imperfections. To the best of our knowledge, this beautiful coin is exceeded only by the unsurpassable McNally coin which was later sold as lot 1299 in Stack's session of Auction '84.

Formerly sold as lot 673 in Stack's sale of October, 1971

254 **1853-O. Mint State 63.** Quite sharply struck and satiny with superb orange gold coloring. The obverse is extremely choice despite the presence of a few fine hairlines; the reverse shows a few small marks at the center. A fairly "common" date by the standards of New Orleans Gold Dollars but still a decidedly above-average quality example.

CONDITION CENSUS 1854-S GOLD DOLLAR

255 **1854-S. Mint State 63.** Extremely well struck and with the unusual "metallic" lustre which is characteristic of this issue. Both the obverse and reverse show absolutely no weakness of detail even on the hair strands and the leaves in the Wreath. Struck in light orange gold with soft rose overtones noted. The underlying surfaces are quite clean with no deep or detracting marks visible to the naked eye. This issue is, of course, very popular as it was the first Gold Dollar to be struck at the San Francisco Mint. Lower grade examples are fairly easy to obtain and are somewhat overrated. But strictly Mint State examples are quite rare. This piece is exceeded by only a small handful of others and fits comfortably into the Condition Census for the date.
Formerly sold as lot 1174 in Stack's sale of May 8, 1971

Gold Dollars, Type 2

SUPERB 1855-D GOLD DOLLAR— ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN

See Color Plate 4

256 **1855-D. Mint State 63.** An above-average strike for the date despite some fairly pronounced clash marks on both the obverse and reverse. The obverse shows sharp detail with just a bit of weakness noted on the curls below LIB in LIBERTY; the date is full with the exception of the 8 which is weak. The borders are fully detailed on both the obverse and reverse as well. The surfaces are slightly prooflike and display attractive light greenish gold coloring. A few fine hairlines are visible below magnification but there is an absence of appreciable marks. The overall appearance and planchet quality are remarkably good for this issue. The 1855-D Gold Dollar is one of the rarest dates of this denomination. A total of 1,811 pieces were struck and it is probable than no more than 35 or so survive with the great majority of these grading from Fine to Extremely Fine. **This piece is one of the 2 Finest Known examples** of this date and it is clearly the finest which is currently available to collectors.
Formerly sold as lot 1817 in Mid American's May, 1986 sale; possibly earlier from the Ullmer and Miles sales but the plates in both of those 2 catalogues are so poor that it is extremely difficult to conclude this with certainty

FINEST KNOWN 1855-O GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

257 **1855-O. Mint State 64.** An absolutely exquisite example of this very rare and much underrated issue. The strike is extremely sharp with the date showing just the slightest amount of weakness on the 8 and LL in DOLLAR. There are just a few tiny clash marks noted on the obverse while the reverse is almost entirely free of clash marks. Both sides show lovely soft satiny lustre which is further enhanced by splendid light greenish gold and orange coloring. The obverse is of full Gem quality while the reverse shows two tiny marks below the O in DOLLAR. This date can be located without great difficulty in circulated grades and is only moderately rare in the lower Mint State grades. In Mint State 63, however, is extremely rare and virtually uncollectible in grades higher than this. While the 1855-O sells for little or no premium over the Philadelphia Type 2 Gold Dollars, it is dozens of times rarer. **This is the finest example of which we are aware.**

258 **1856-S. Double punched mintmark. Breen-6045. Very early Die State with much of the extra S plainly visible above and to the right of the "normal" mintmark. Mint State 60+.** A nice, sharp strike from cracked dies. The obverse, in particular, shows a number of severe die cracks. The central details are very sharp with Liberty's hair showing no weakness. The surfaces are lustrous and bathed in attractive orange gold coloring. Both sides show a few light, scattered marks but this piece is absolutely free of wear and it represents premium quality both for the grade and for the issue. A very rare an underrated issue in this grade and a variety which, to the best of our knowledge, is a strong Rarity-7 in this grade.

Gold Dollars, Type 3

EXTREMELY RARE PROOF 1856 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

259 **1856. Slanting 5. Brilliant Proof 65.** A superb and very important coin. This piece is especially well manufactured with bright, reflective surfaces showing just a few faint striations; curiously, the reverse shows some faint but pronounced clash marks at its center. Both the obverse and the reverse are overlaid with lovely greenish gold coloring. The rims are fully squared while the surfaces display the type of brilliance which is generally seen only on Proofs of the 1860's and later. It is unknown exactly how many Proof 1856 Gold Dollars were struck, but we doubt if the original figure was more than 15 or so. Approximately 7 to 8 pieces are known to exist today and we cannot imagine that a single one of these pieces is finer than the presently offered specimen.

Formerly sold as lot 31 in the Eliasberg Sale; earlier in the collection of John H. Clapp who purchased it out of the Matthew A. Stickney Collection which was sold by Henry Chapman in 1907. It is probable that Stickney obtained this coin directly from the Mint at its time issue as he was actively collecting as early as the 1840's

UNBELIEVABLE 1856 GOLD DOLLAR—ONE OF THE FINEST TYPE 3 GOLD DOLLARS KNOWN TO EXIST

See Color Plate 4

260 **1856. Slanting 5. Mint State 69.** This is one of the most perfect Type 3 Gold Dollars which we have ever seen or sold. After comparing this piece to the PCGS graded Mint State 68 1857 Gold Dollar which was offered earlier in the sale, we can enthusiastically state that we like the presently offered piece even more. What makes this coin so special is its sensational orange gold and rose green coloring which rests atop splendid frosty lustre. The strike is quite sharp with just a bit of weakness noted at the lower obverse and corresponding reverse; this is the result of die deterioration. Even under intense scrutiny and strong magnification, we are unable to discern a single mark on the surfaces. If we had not viewed this coin with our own eyes, we would not believe that an 1856 Gold Dollar of this quality could exist! **Absolutely the Finest Known example** of this date and a coin which could easily set a record for a Gold Dollar of this type.

THE FINEST KNOWN 1856-D GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

261 **1856-D. Mint State 60+.** An absolutely outrageous example of this extremely rare coin. The strike is sharp with the only area of weakness visible on the 5 in the date. The quality of the planchet is far better than on any other example which we have seen; both the obverse and reverse are somewhat prooflike and are almost entirely free of the mint-made defects which are virtually diagnostic to this issue. As on all known examples, the U in UNITED is faint. Both the obverse and reverse are covered with light orange gold toning and the high spots are free of wear. This date is every bit as rare as its small mintage of 1,460 coins would suggest. Perhaps as many as 30 exist with the typical coin grading Very Fine or Extremely Fine. Paul Taglione claims to know of the existence of another very choice coin in a Northern Florida collection; we have not seen this coin and cannot compare it to the presently offered piece. However, we can state that **this piece has generally been accepted by the numismatic community as the Finest Known 1856-D Gold Dollar.**

Formerly sold as lot 1819 in Mid American's May, 1987 sale; earlier sold as lot 1302 in Stack's session of Auction '84 and, before that, sold by Paramount as lot 1343 in their session of Auction '81

THE FINEST KNOWN 1857-C GOLD DOLLAR

262 **1857-C. Mint State 63.** While many of the Gold Dollars in this group will sell for higher prices, this piece is, in our opinion, one of the rarest and most significant. It is, by a large margin, the Finest Known 1857-C Gold Dollar. The strike is extremely sharp with a full date, value and legend. What makes this piece especially remarkable, however, is the quality of its surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse display far fewer defects than normally seen with the only significant area of roughness appearing under STA in STATES. Both the obverse and reverse are somewhat prooflike and covered with attractive light orange gold coloring which changes to pale rose at the centers. This piece was unknown to Douglas Winter when he wrote his standard work on Charlotte Mint Gold coinage. In that work, the Finest Known example of this date was said to grade Mint State 60. That piece was the McNally coin which is not even close to this in terms of overall quality. This is **the only Choice Uncirculated example of this date known to exist** and we doubt that a finer specimen will ever be offered for sale.

ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN 1857-S GOLD DOLLARS

263 **1857-S. Mint State 60+.** Very sharply struck with all of the details bold with the exception of the capital C in AMERICA which is weak due to clogging of the die. The obverse and reverse display rich satiny lustre which is covered with pale orange gold and rose coloring; this deepens to a faint coppery hue near the mintmark. The surfaces are quite clean with no significant marks noted to the naked eye; a tiny obverse rim tick is visible directly over the second S in STATES and this should serve as feature identification. While this date receives very little fanfare, it is an extremely rare and undervalued issue in Mint State. Only 2 or 3 other Mint State examples are known and Uncirculated 1857-S Gold Dollars have been conspicuously absent from virtually every major collection of Gold Dollars formed in the past few decades. An outstanding opportunity to the astute specialist.

SUPERB GEM UNCIRCULATED 1858 GOLD DOLLAR

264 **1858. Mint State 68.** An absolutely remarkable coin which is virtually "as struck." Both the obverse and reverse are very sharply impressed despite having been struck from very lightly clashed dies. Both sides exhibit superb rich rose and greenish coloring. The surfaces are very frosty and are just about perfect. In terms of overall quality, this piece closely rivals the recently offered 1856 Slanting 5. The only 1858 business strike Gold Dollar which we have seen of this quality was the example which was sold as lot 42 in Stack's January, 1986 Sale. This piece should set a record price.

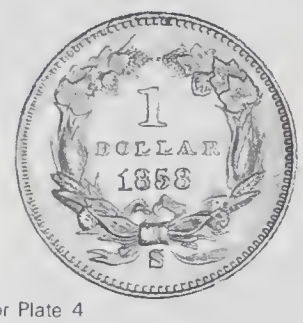
TIED FOR FINEST KNOWN 1858-D GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

265 **1858-D. Mint State 63.** An extremely sharp strike for the date with the obverse showing excellent detail in the hair; the date is full with the exception of the slightest amount of weakness on the 5. The obverse is frosty and covered with delicate orange gold coloring while the reverse is somewhat prooflike with similar but slightly deeper coloring. As on all genuine examples of this date, there is a small mint-made defect under the ED in UNITED. This piece is easily identifiable by a toning spot to the left of Liberty's ear. Far and away the most attractive example of this date which we have ever seen and struck on the finest planchet we have seen as well. This example is one of only 3 known strictly Mint State 1858-D Gold Dollars and it is **tied with one other piece for the Finest Known.** That coin will probably never appear for sale and, thus, this example is the finest piece available to collectors.

Formerly sold as lot 1184 in Stack's May 8, 1971 sale

SECOND FINEST KNOWN 1858-S GOLD DOLLAR



See Color Plate 4

266 **1858-S. Mint State 64.** Quite sharply struck and lustrous with pleasant medium greenish gold coloring which is accentuated by faint pinkish tints at the centers. The surfaces are quite clean with just a few tiny marks noted below magnification, on the reverse. The 1858-S Gold Dollar is an extremely under rated issue which must be considered a "condition rarity." A total of 10,000 pieces were struck and this date is very scarce even in circulated grades. In Mint State it is extremely rare with only 3 or 4 pieces known to exist. The only finer known example of this date is the piece which was sold in the Bareford Sale in 1978.

Formerly sold as lot 592 in the NASCA McNally sale of December, 1976

VERY RARE GEM PROOF 1859 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

267 **1859. Brilliant Proof 64**. Extremely late Die State with virtually no repunching noted on the date. A beautiful, original example with rich cloudy toning which is a bit more pronounced on the obverse than on the reverse. The devices are frosted and give a lovely two-tone appearance. Below magnification, there are a few extremely faint hairlines in the left obverse field. Otherwise, this piece is a Gem. A total of 80 Proofs were struck; of these, fewer than 20 are currently known with only half a dozen or so pieces grading Proof 64 or better by current standards.

Formerly sold as lot 45 in Stack's January, 1986 sale

A NUMISMATIC FIRST: TWO CHOICE UNCIRCULATED EXAMPLES OF THE VERY RARE 1859-D GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

268 **1859-D. Mint State 63**. This first example is extremely well struck with all details plainly visible with the exception of the 5 in the date which is slightly weak. It is most notable for its excellent lustre and coloring. The obverse is very slightly prooflike while the reverse is mostly frosty; both sides are toned to an even orange gold. The planchet is of excellent quality with virtually no mint-made faults noted. In Mint State, the 1859-D is a little less rare than some of the other issues of the 1850's. However, this is still an extremely difficult coin to locate with probably no more than half a dozen or so pieces in existence; most of which grade no better than Mint State 60. This piece is easily of Condition Census quality and, in fact, was sold as the "Finest Known" in its last auction appearance.

Formerly sold as lot 582 in the McNally Collection Sale; earlier sold as lot 29 in Pine Tree's Breen I Sale of September, 1973

269 **1859-D. Mint State 63**. In the history of numismatics, there has never been an auction sale in which two Choice Mint State examples of the 1859-D Gold Dollar were offered for sale. This coin is every bit as choice as the last. It is exceptionally well struck with the obverse particularly so; the reverse is very slightly less sharp than the last coin with a minute amount of weakness noted on OLL in DOLLAR. What makes this coin particularly attractive is its rich orange gold coloring and its absolutely "original" appearance. The quality of the planchet is spectacular and it would be difficult to imagine an 1859-D Gold Dollar with more appeal. Another piece which rates high in the Condition Census for the issue.

Formerly sold as lot 38 in the Bareford Sale of December 1978 (where it realized $5,500); earlier in B. Max Mehl's Will W. Neil Collection Sale of June 17, 1947, Lot 2358

EXTREMELY RARE UNCIRCULATED 1860-D GOLD DOLLAR PROBABLY THE SECOND FINEST KNOWN

See Color Plate 4

270 **1860-D. Mint State 60+**. Formerly sold as lot 1306 in Stack's session of Auction '84 and there described as follows: "A lustrous partially prooflike specimen with rich golden toning. Weak at the borders as are all known specimens to one degree or another. (This weakness is a result of the poor quality dies used and not a weak strike since the coin is generally quite well struck.) There are a few light hairlines and contact marks in the fields but the overall appearance and quality of this coin are really quite extraordinary for the date. This specimen was formerly in the Ullmer Sale, lot 342, where it realized $8,500 in 1974. Prior to that it was in the famous R. L. Miles, Jr. Collection. Of the specimens that we have seen, only the incomparable Lloyd Myers coin sold by Stack's in 1972 was distinctly finer than this one. The 1860-D is one of the rarest and most famous dates of the Gold Dollar series although, in our opinion, it is not quite as rare overall as the 1855-D, 1856-D or 1861-D. Only 1,566 specimens were struck and we would estimate that the number of known specimens is between 40 and 50, most of those in the VF to EF range. This coin should be of great interest to both the Gold Dollar collector and the Dahlonega Mint specialist since it is the finest specimen on the market in nearly seven years and undoubtedly one of the 4 or 5 Finest Known specimens of this rare and coveted date."

This coin was bought back by Dr. Arthur Montgomery and then reappeared for sale as lot 1825 in Mid American's May, 1986 Sale. Our research shows that this is the Second Finest Known of exactly 4 Mint State specimens which are in existence; the Myers coin grades Mint State 63 to Mint State 64.

271 **1860-S. Medium S. Mint State 60.** Quite sharply struck and lustrous with attractive natural subdued orange gold toning which is most pronounced at the reverse center. A small coppery toning spot to the left of Liberty's neck serves as identification. The surfaces show a few light marks but the high spots are free of wear and this piece represents very nice quality for the grade. One of only 13,000 pieces struck and a rare date in this grade although not nearly as much so as some of the San Francisco Gold Dollars of the 1850's.

VERY RARE GEM PROOF 1861 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

272 **1861. Briliant Proof 65.** A very beatiful little coin with attractive orange gold coloring on the obverse and reverse. The obverse is absolutely superb with an absence of hairlines atop unblemished and deeply reflective surfaces; the reverse is also free of hairlines but shows a few tiny mint-made lint marks at the left side of the center as well as a curious untoned spot immediately to the right of the bow. While an abnormally high total of 349 Proofs were struck, virtually all of these were melted as they were not purchased by collectors. It is estimated that only two dozen or so Proof 1861 Gold Dollars exist with a number of these impounded and even more either impaired or not particularly attractive. This piece is certainly among the Finest Known.

Formerly sold as lot 48 in the Eliasberg Sale; earlier in the John H. Clapp Collection and obtained by him from the famous Harlan P. Smith Collection which was sold by the Chapman Brothers in May, 1906

ANOTHER UNPRECEDENTED OFFERING: A PAIR OF MINT STATE 1861-D GOLD DOLLARS

See Color Plate 4

273 **1861-D. Mint State 64.** Extremely well struck for this issue with the U faint but visible; the other letters in UNITED are not 100% defined but are still plainly visible to the naked eye. The other letters in the obverse legend are about as sharp as is generally seen on this issue. Struck in lovely yellow gold and with a mostly prooflike obverse; the reverse is frosty and shows a splash of pale orange gold toning at its center. The surfaces are remarkably clean; a microscopic reverse rim mark (mint-made) is located at 6 o'clock and is described solely for future identification. The 1861-D is easily the most popular of all Gold Dollars. As is well known, the entire mintage (which is unknown but is estimated to number between 1,000 and 1,500 coins) were struck by the Confederacy after they had siezed the Dahlonega Mint. Today, fewer than three dozen pieces are known to exist. Curiously, as many as half a dozen Mint State examples are known; we believe that a few of these pieces must have been saved as souvenirs when they were struck as the "grade distribution" for this coin is skewed far too much towards the high side. Of these Mint State coins, each has been claimed, at one time or another, to be the "Finest Known." In our opinion, the Finest Known is the Pierce-Miles-Ullmer-Montgomery example, with this particular coin being the second Finest Known. An incredible example of this legendary rarity.

Formerly sold as lot 510 in Stack's December, 1972 Lloyd Myers sale

A SECOND CHOICE UNCIRCULATED 1861-D GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

274 **1861-D. Mint State 63.** This second lovely Mint example is even more sharply struck than the last coin. On this piece, the U is faint but visible while the other letters in UNITED are sharp. There is no weakness whatsoever on any of the other letters in the legend. The obverse is extremely frosty with very slightly reflective tendencies encircling the device; the reverse is entirely frosty. Both sides display superb rich natural orange gold toning which deepens at OF AMER as well as over the value on the reverse. The surfaces are quite clean with the only describable mark resting directly above the 86 in the date. It is difficult to choose between this coin and the previously offered 1861-D as to quality as they are so similar. In fact, we would not be surprised if this piece was regarded by a number of advanced collectors to be every bit the equal to the last piece. We would be even more surprised if there were ever again an auction sale in which two Mint State 63 or better examples of this celebrated rarity appeared.
Formerly sold as lot 49 in the Eliasberg Sale; earlier in the John H. Clapp Collection and obtained by Clapp from I. M. Bates in June, 1895

VERY RARE GEM PROOF 1862 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

275 **1862. Brilliant Proof 65.** A lovely two-tone cameo example with strong contrast noted between the frosted device and the deep mirror fields. The surfaces are enveloped by rich cloudy natural orange gold coloring. This coin has been very carefully preserved since it was manufactured and there is a conspicuous absence of hairlines noted. Two tiny toning spots are visible on the obverse; one is in the left field while the other is in the right field. There are a few mint-made marks, the most noticeable of which is an elliptical one located above Liberty's eye, and another which is located above the 1 in the date. A very rare issue with an original mintage of only 35 Proofs. We believe that only 15 to 17 of these survive. This piece is almost certainly among the Finest Known.
Formerly sold as lot 55 in Stack's January, 1986 sale

See Color Plate 4

276 **1862. Mint State 65.** Quite sharply struck from very heavily clashed dies. The satiny surfaces are lightly striated but show fewer of these marks than usual. There are some light areas of mint-made roughness at the lower obverse and the upper reverse as struck. This piece has absolutely superb rich rose and golden coloring in addition to literally flawless surfaces. A fairly common date in the lower ranges of Mint State but no Gold Dollar of the 1860's is easy locate as Choice as this particular coin.

EXTREMELY RARE PROOF 1863 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

277 **1863. Brilliant Proof 65.** A beautiful two-tone example with heavy contrast noted between the frosted device and the mirror surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse show attractive cloudy, orange gold toning. The underlying surfaces are free of hairlines and lack any significant mint-made marks. A small area of discoloring above the O and F serves as identification. The 1863 Gold Dollar is a very desirable issue. As a business strike, it is actually rarer than the vaunted 1875. The rarity of this date in Mint State puts added pressure on the few Proofs which are in existence. A total of 50 pieces were struck; it is doubtful that more than a dozen exist. Again, this piece is one of the Finest Known.

Formerly sold as lot 56 in Stack's January, 1986 sale

See Color Plate 4

278 **1864. Mint State 65.** Quite sharply struck from very lightly clashed dies. The planchet shows some striations, as struck, but these are far less extensive than normally seen. The lustre is extremely good with the obverse showing a particularly pleasing satiny texture. Both sides are toned to a rich yellow golden shade with some deeper rose and coppery splashes forming across much of the obverse periphery and below the ribbon ends on the reverse. The surfaces are clean with no significant marks noted. A total of 5,900 business strikes were produced. This date is occasionally available in the lowest ranges of Mint State but examples of this quality are very rare. This is one of the finest pieces to be sold at public auction in a number of years.

See Color Plate 4

279 **1866. Mint State 63.** A nice, sharp strike from heavily clashed dies. Both the obverse and reverse are fully prooflike with rich orange gold coloring. There are a few light marks in the obverse field while the reverse is extremely choice. This is one of only 7,100 business strikes produced. Mint State survivors of this date are typically found with very heavy planchet striations and generally grade no better than Mint State 60. This piece is certainly far above-average.

VERY RARE PROOF 1867 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

280 **1867. Proof 64.** Reflective and extremely Choice with pleasing deep cloudy gold toning on the obverse and reverse. The underlying surfaces show a few slight hairlines but are still outstanding. A tiny mint-made planchet depression at 5 o'clock on the reverse rim serves as immediate future identification. A total of 50 Proofs were struck and it is doubtful if more than 15 to 18 pieces still exist.

Formerly sold as lot 55 in the Eliasberg Sale; earlier in the collection of John H. Clapp and obtained by him from the famous Harlan P. Smith Collection which was sold by the Chapman Brothers in 1906

281 **1867. Mint State 63.** Well struck from heavily clashed dies. Both the obverse and reverse are mostly prooflike with scattered areas of mint frost. Both sides are a light orange golden color with pale rose overtones forming across much of the obverse and on the lower reverse. This very late Die State as evidenced by noticeable swelling in the left obverse field. The surfaces are very acceptable for the grade with the only noticeable marks located directly below Liberty's neck. One of only 5,200 business strikes produced and a scarce, popular issue which is all but impossible to locate choicer than this.

Formerly sold in Stack's October, 1976 sale

See Color Plate 4

282 **1868. Brilliant Proof 60+.** Normal reverse die rotation. An unquestionable Proof example which meets the diagnostic characteristics set forth by Breen. Fully reflective and with attractive medium to deep orange gold toning. The obverse is very choice with just a few light hairlines located in the fields; the reverse is slightly less Choice with a few more hairlines as well as two small marks above the A in DOLLAR. Nonetheless, an extremely acceptable example for the grade with legitimate eye appeal. One of only 25 Proofs struck. Of these, perhaps 14 to 16 still exist with most similar to—or inferior to—this piece in terms of overall quality.

Formerly sold as lot 1311 in Stack's December 6, 1973 Sale

283 **1868. Mint State 63.** Quite sharply struck and almost fully prooflike with a bit of frost noted within the reflectiveness. Both the obverse and reverse are quite clean and are graced with lovely orange gold and pale greenish coloring.

See Color Plate 4

284 **1868. Mint State 63.** Similar in quality to the last example but almost entirely different in terms of appearance. This piece is mostly frosty with almost no mirror-like reflectiveness noted. The obverse is particularly choice with rich coloring; the reverse shows a few light marks at the center but has similarly pleasing color. One of only 10,500 business strikes produced.

VERY RARE PROOF 1869 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

285 **1869. Brilliant Proof 64.** Brilliant and reflective with superb rich orange gold toning on the obverse and the reverse. The surfaces have an especially heavy orange peel texture and are almost entirely free of hairlines. A small toning spot between the I and the T in UNITED serves as immediate identification. A very rare and much underrated issue with an original mintage of just 25 pieces. Between 12 and 15 are known to exist with a few of these impaired and others impounded. More than likely, this is among the Finest Known examples.

Formerly sold as lot 57 in the Eliasberg sale; earlier in the John H. Clapp Collection and purchased by him from the Dickenson Lindsey Collections sale which was sold by the Chapman Brothers in 1894

286 **1869. Mint State 64.** Sharply struck and frosty with bright orange gold and pinkish coloring. The obverse is nearly of Gem quality with just a few light marks noted in the fields. A very faint S-shaped mint-made lint mark runs from the left part of the upper loop of the 8 to the second L in DOLLAR. One of only 5,900 business strikes produced and a very underrated date in the upper ranges of Mint State.

A SUPERB CONDITION CENSUS 1870-S GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

287 **1870-S. Mint State 65.** A remarkable example of a date which is almost impossible to find with any degree of eye appeal. This piece is very well struck and lustrous on a planchet which is almost entirely free of die striations. The obverse is a blend of pale greenish gold and coppery orange shadings; the reverse shows similar but slightly different coloring. The surfaces are nearly perfect with an almost total absence of marks which enter into the planchet. This is a very rare date as one might assume from its small original mintage of 3,000 pieces. Approximately 55 to 60 pieces are known with a high percentage of these (approximately 10 pieces) grading Mint State. However, virtually all of these coins grade Mint State 60 to Mint State 63. In Mint State 65, the 1870-S is extremely rare. In fact, the only finer example of this date which we have ever seen is the magnificent McNally coin which was last sold as lot 1369 in Paramount's session of Auction '81. Thus, **this coin may actually be the Second Finest Known.** An extremely important coin for the Gold Dollar specialist or for the collector who appreciates high quality and genuine rarity.

SUPERB GEM 1871 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

288 **1871. Mint State 66.** Very sharply struck and almost fully prooflike with magnificent deep coppery orange toning on the obverse and reverse. The surfaces are flawless with the exception of a tiny mint-made mark which is attached to the top of the second 1 in the date. This auction sale provides the collector with the opportunity to bid on a number of magnificent 1871 Gold Dollars. The incredible eye appeal of this piece makes it one of our favorite examples.
Formerly sold in Bowers and Ruddy's February, 1977 sale

SEMI-UNIQUE PROOF 1873 OPEN 3 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

289 **1873 Open 3. Brilliant Proof 64.** None of LIBERTY is visible on the headband. Proof 1873 Gold Dollars typically show a Closed 3. This Open 3 coin, however, is unquestionably a Proof striking. It has fully reflective mirror surfaces with a texture and fabric never found on business strikes. In addition, it shows a quality of strike which is only found on Proofs. Most interestingly, it shows the weakness on the upper seriph of the C in AMERICA which is visible on the only other known specimen striking of this variety (the coin which was sold by NERCG as lot 665 in their 1975 NENA Sale). We conjecture that this piece was some sort of clandestine special striking which was probably prepared at a later date (ca. 1874 or 1875?). This conjecture is further strengthened by the presence of considerable die rust on the obverse device. In his new encyclopedia on United States coins, Walter Breen states that two "possible Proofs" are known of which this is one piece. A most interesting and absolutely remarkable piece which should be carefully examined in person.

See Color Plate 4

290 **1873 Open 3. All of LIBERTY shows plainly. Mint State 64.** A nice, sharp strike in orange gold. The surfaces are satiny and very clean with no major marks visible to the naked eye.

A PAIR OF THE RARE 1873 CLOSED 3 GOLD DOLLARS

291 **1873. Closed 3. Mint State 63.** Diagnostic raised die scratch on Liberty's neck. The obverse is frosty and somewhat prooflike with an unusual grainy texture; the reverse is almost fully prooflike with considerable satiny lustre and an absence of this graininess. Both sides show light orange gold coloring with a coppery toning spot located adjacent to the upper part of the headband on the obverse. The surfaces are clean with just a few slight scuff marks noted in the fields. An extremely rare and very underrated date in full Mint State. In fact, only the 1863 and 1875 Philadelphia issues are more difficult to locate in Mint State among Gold Dollars issued at this facility.

See Color Plate 4

292 **1873. Closed 3. Mint State 63.** Diagnostic raised die scratch on Liberty's neck. An extremely unusual coin which is struck from heavily buckled dies; this is clearly evident in the right obverse field and on the corresponding reverse. The strike is exceedingly sharp with many of Liberty's hair strands individually defined and much less weakness than is usually seen on the 87 in the date. The surfaces are almost fully prooflike and covered with appealing pale rose and orange gold coloring. The obverse is extremely choice, while there are a few inconsequential marks located in the upper part of the reverse center. This piece is very different in appearance than the last coin and it offers the student of the series the chance to intently compare the diagnostics of the 1873 issue.

EXTREMELY RARE PROOF 1874 GOLD DOLLAR

293 **1874. Brilliant Proof 64.** All of LIBERTY shows plainly on the headband. A most unusual coin in that Proofs of this date are supposed to show only a part of the word LIBERTY; in addition, this piece is carelessly manufactured with some conspicuous die roughness noted at the I in AMERICA and at much of the reverse center. However, this example is unquestionably a Proof, as evidenced by its full mirror surfaces and fully squared rims. Furthermore, it shows the long spine-like die spur atop the D in UNITED which we have seen on the few other genuine Proof examples of this issue which have sold in recent years. Excepting the aforementioned quality of strike, the surfaces on this piece are very Choice and are overlaid by splashes of pale greenish gold toning. The great rarity of Proof 1874 Gold Dollars is overshadowed by the great availability of business strike. A total of only 20 Proofs were struck and we doubt if more than 8 to 10 examples have survived. This is one of the rarest of all Proof Gold Dollars.

MAGNIFICENT BUSINESS STRIKE 1874 GOLD DOLLAR

294 **1874. Only the L in LIBERTY shows on the headband. Mint State 68.** A common coin in an uncommon grade! Remarkably well struck and frosty with indescribably beautiful pale rose and deep green gold coloring which is accentuated by some light areas of coppery toning on both sides. The surfaces are amazingly lustrous and are just about perfect. While this is one of the more common of all Gold Dollars in the lower ranges of Mint State, full blown Gem examples are surprisingly difficult to locate. Examples of this quality are extremely rare and this piece rates as one of the 1 or 2 finest 1874 business strike Gold Dollars which we have ever seen or sold.

VERY RARE GEM BUSINESS STRIKE 1875 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

295 **1875. Mint State 65.** A superb match to the PCGS graded business strike 1875 Dollar which is also offered previously in this sale. This is an obvious business strike with the thornlike projection into the field from the throat plainly visible. In addition, the surfaces, while mostly prooflike, contain considerable amounts of mint frost. The obverse device is frosted and gives a strong two-tone appearance. The surfaces are very clean with an absence of hairlines or non mintmade marks. Below magnification, we note a tiny planchet flake adjacent to the final A in AMERICA which should serve as immediate identification in the future. A beautiful example of one of the rarest and most popular of all small denomination United States Gold Coins.

Formerly sold as lot 60 in Stack's December, 1978 Bareford Sale; earlier sold as lot 30 in B. Max Mehl's April 26, 1949 Sale of the Dr. Charles W. Green collection

296 **1876. Mint State 63.** A beautiful "first strike" example with an appearance which is fairly similar to that of a Proof. The strike is very sharp with the exception of the hair below IBE in LIBERTY which, as usual, is weakly impressed. The obverse is mostly prooflike with frosty lustre below rich orange gold coloring; the reverse is wholly prooflike and shows similar lovely coloring. One of only 3,200 business strikes produced and a very rare date in Mint State 63 or higher grades.

297 **1877. Mint State 65.** The obverse is frosty and somewhat prooflike with superb rich rose and green gold coloring; the reverse tends a bit more towards frostiness and shows similar but very slightly less extensive coloring. The strike is sharp and the surfaces are very clean although we do note some tiny areas of mint-made roughness at the E and the C in AMERICA. One of 3,920 business strikes produced and an extremely difficult date to locate in the upper ranges of Mint State.

298 **1878. Mint State 63.** Very sharply struck and satiny with a very slightly prooflike obverse. Both sides exhibit attractive even orange gold coloring. Other than one fine scratch behind Liberty's head, the surfaces are extremely choice. A coppery toning spot atop the second T in STATES serves as immediate identification. One of only 3,000 business strikes produced and, as one might expect, a very rare coin in this grade. It is our experience that the rarity of this date is dampened by the relative availability of similarly dated Three Dollar Gold Pieces. However, 1878 Gold Dollars are much rarer than 1878 Three Dollar Gold Pieces, especially in the upper ranges of Mint State.

299 **1879. Mint State 64.** Late Die State with the BER in LIBERTY indistinct and strong clash marks located at the centers. The obverse is fully prooflike while the reverse shows rich, frosty lustre. Both sides display an even orange gold coloring with an identifying coppery toning spot at 8:30 o'clock on the reverse. Only 3,000 business strikes of this date were produced.

300 **1881. Mint State 65.** An absolutely lovely coin which is semi-prooflike and frosty with enticing light greenish gold coloring. The strike is very sharp and the surfaces are extremely clean with a virtual absence of marks visible to the naked eye. One of only 7,620 pieces struck and almost certainly not from the Lindheim Hoard as are the pieces in this sale which have been graded by PCGS.

GEM PROOF 1885 GOLD DOLLAR

See Color Plate 4

301 **1885. Brilliant Proof 65.** A "late in the year" Proof striking whose surfaces are fully reflective and display rich orange peel texture but are not quite as intensely mirrored as the earliest Proof strikings. The obverse shows a few curious light pre-striking marks in the planchet while the reverse is superb. A coppery toning spot between the F in OF and the first A in AMERICA serves as identification. A wonderful type coin for the Proof Gold collector.

See Color Plate 4

302 **1889. Mint State 65.** Very sharply struck and semi-prooflike with the obverse a bit more reflective than the reverse. Both sides display exquisite rose and orange gold coloring which is enhanced by some scattered coppery spots.

Liberty Head Quarter Eagles

CHOICE UNCIRCULATED 1844-D

303 **1844-D. Mint State 63.** An exceptionally sharp strike for the issue with absolutely no weakness noted at either the centers or denticles. The surfaces are satiny and impressed in rich green gold which is overlaid with somewhat deeper coppery green coloring. There are a few minor marks scattered about the rims but the surfaces are extremely clean. This date is slightly less rare in Mint State than many of the other Dahlonega Quarter Eagles of the 1840's but it is still a legitimately rare issue with less than a dozen pieces known which grade Uncirculated by current standards.

Formerly sold as lot 998 in
Bowers and Ruddy's November, 1972 sale

FINEST KNOWN 1845-D QUARTER EAGLE— ONE OF 2 PIECES KNOWN IN MINT STATE

See Color Plate 4

304 **1845-D. Mint State 63.** An exceptionally sharp strike for this issue with both the centers and the borders showing virtually no weakness. The planchet is smooth and far above-average for the date with none of the typically seen mint-made imperfections. The obverse and reverse both show rich subdued lustre which is overlaid with delightful green gold coloring. The only other known Mint State example of this date is the piece which we sold in our 1975 ANA Sale. This piece is clearly finer and, as such, is **unquestionably the Finest Known.** A very exciting piece for the specialist and a coin which has been off the market for over 15 years.

Formerly sold as lot 554 in Stack's December 14, 1972 Sale

THE FINEST KNOWN 1848 "CAL." QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 4

305 **1848. "CAL." Mint State 67.** A simply breathtaking example of this celebrated rarity and unquestionably the finest example known. Very sharply struck and satiny with slightly prooflike surfaces. Both the obverse and the reverse are bathed in glorious orange gold coloring. There is one tiny mint-made mark below the fourth star. The reverse is virtually perfect. In our September, 1988 sale, we had the privilege of selling the Ex—Garrett example which we conservatively graded Mint State 65. After comparing the two coins, we can state with confidence that this piece is considerably nicer. We base this statement on the fact that this particular coin has better overall "eye appeal" and cleaner surfaces. In 1980, the Garrett coin realized $70,000. With today's rare coin market more willing than ever to pay "top dollar" for condition and more acutely aware of rarity at any time since 1979-1980, we would not be surprised if this coin met or surpassed the previous auction record.

Formerly sold as lot 73 at the 1979 ANA Sale; earlier sold as lot 239 in the 1942 ANA Sale where it realized $150

306 **1850. Heavy date. Mint State 63.** Sharply struck with the exception of the eagle's left leg feathers which show typical weakness. Satiny and struck in medium greenish gold; there is a splash of coppery toning in the left obverse field and more extensive coppery coloring above the eagle's head and below his wings. The surfaces are vibrant and lightly marked. This is a very rare and underrated date in Mint State. When found, the 1850 Quarter Eagle typically grades Very Fine to Extremely Fine.

307 **1851. Normal date. Mint State 63.** A boldly struck example with a high wire rim noted from 8 o'clock to 11 o'clock on the obverse and across much of the reverse. Satiny and lustrous with medium greenish gold coloring which deepens in the protected areas. The obverse is very choice with the exception of a small rim mark below the second 1 in the date; the reverse shows a few marks in the fields. Not quite as rare a date in Mint State as the 1850 but still a difficult coin to locate this choice.

See Color Plate 4

308 **1855. Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck from lightly clashed dies. The surfaces display superb satiny lustre and are overlaid with lovely orange gold and gentle rose shadings. With the exception of the aforementioned clash marks, the surfaces are virtually unmarked. A tiny coppery toning spot at the fourth star and another at the ninth star serve as immediate identification. A very common date in low grades and an issue which is not impossibly difficult to locate in Mint State 60. However, Choice Uncirculated 1855 Quarter Eagles are rare and examples of this quality are extremely rare. This piece is probably among the Finest Known.

CONDITION CENSUS 1855-C QUARTER EAGLE

309 **1855-C. About Uncirculated 58.** The obverse is well struck with the exception of the fifth through ninth stars which are somewhat weak; the reverse, as always, is quite weak at the center. Fully lustrous with slightly prooflike surfaces and pale natural orange gold coloring. The surfaces are generally clean and just the faintest trace of rubbing is located on the high spots. This coin is tied with three other pieces as the fifth Finest Known 1855-C Quarter Eagle. The only finer example to be sold in a number of years was the Norweb II:2028 coin which realized $4,070.

Formerly sold as lot 619 in Pine Tree's June, 1975 Sale

ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN 1857 QUARTER EAGLES

See Color Plate 4

310 **1857. Mint State 66.** Very sharply struck with the exception of the eagle's left leg which, as always, is somewhat flat. There is a pronounced wire rim on much of the obverse and reverse. The surfaces are extremely satiny with some mint-made striations noted. Both the obverse and reverse are bathed in superb rose and greenish gold coloring. There are a few tiny marks on the obverse while the reverse is nearly free of marks. This date is scarce and underrated in the lower ranges of Mint State although pieces grading as high as Mint State 62 are occasionally offered for sale. In Mint State 63 this date becomes rare and full blown Gems (such as this piece) are extremely rare. This piece is one of the Finest Known.

Formerly sold as lot 428 in Harmer Rooke's November 17, 1969 sale

311 **1857. Mint State 63.** A similar strike to the last with a bit of weakness noted on the eagle's left leg. This piece is satiny and somewhat prooflike. Both the obverse and reverse are lightly striated and show a few scattered marks. A pleasing coin for the grade and a piece which represents far above-average quality for the date.

312 **1861. Mint State 65.** Sharply struck and frosty with rich even orange gold coloring. Surfaces are very clean. A lovely Gem example of the only Quarter Eagle of this era which is available in the upper ranges of Mint States with any degree of regularity.

313 **1861. Mint State 65.** This second Gem example has a very sharp obverse but does show a bit of weakness of strike on the eagle's left leg. However, this is more than compensated for by its superb pale green coloring, rich satiny lustre and unmarked surfaces. A splendid type coin.

VERY RARE GEM PROOF 1864 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 4

314 **1864. Brilliant Proof 65**. A superb cameo example with extremely strong contrast noted between the heavily frosted devices and the very deep mirror fields. The surfaces are free of toning and display a pronounced orange peel texture. Unlike most examples of this date, this piece exhibits no hairlines and was carefully manufactured. A total of 50 Proofs were struck but it is probable that a sizable percentage of these went unsold and were melted by the Mint. We estimate that approximately a dozen or so examples are known to exist and this piece is certainly one of the 2 or 3 finest of these. In terms of numbers known, this date is actually rarer than the celebrated 1863 Quarter Eagle.

Formerly sold as lot 1580 in Bowers and Ruddy's October, 1977 Sale.

GEM PROOF 1895 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 4

315 **1895. Brilliant Proof 65.** A two-toned example with reasonably strong contrast noted between the device and the fields. The obverse and reverse both display considerable orange peel texture and are overlaid with light orange gold coloring. A total 119 Proofs were struck. It is safe to say that only a handful of the survivors compare to this piece.

GEM PROOF 1896 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 4

316 **1896. Brilliant Proof 65.** A superb cameo example with heavy contrast between the frosted device and the mirror surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse are overlaid with particularly attractive deep orange gold coloring. The underlying surfaces are undisturbed. A total of 132 Proofs were originally struck and approximately 45 to 55 pieces are still in existence. For some unknown reason, an unusually high number of these are impaired.

Formerly sold as lot 738 in
Paramount's November, 1979 sale where it realized $5,000

SUPERB GEM 1896 BUSINESS STRIKE QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 4

317 **1896. Mint State 67.** A truly beautiful example of this popular date. The surfaces are satiny and extremely clean. What makes this coin so appealing, however, is its rich coloring. The obverse has a pale rose gold center which deepens to rich greenish gold; the reverse shows basically similar but slightly deeper overall coloring. This coin should be of considerable interest to the type collector due to its eye appeal and quality. One of only 19,070 pieces struck and an unimprovable example in every respect.

318 **1896. Mint State 64.** Sharply struck and frosty with superb rose and greenish gold color. A few small marks at the obverse center narrowly remove this coin from an otherwise deserved Gem grade.

SUPERB GEM 1898 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 4

319 **1898. Mint State 67.** A virtual twin in quality and appearance to the recently offered Gem 1896 business strike. This piece is every bit as well struck and lustrous with similar coloring. On this example, there are a few distinguishing coppery toning spots; two of these are located on the lower part of the obverse while another is located at the top of the C in AMERICA. The surfaces are nearly perfect and this piece must certainly rate among the Finest Known business strike 1898 Quarter Eagles. One of only 24,000 pieces produced.

320 **1899. Mint State 65.** Very well struck and frosty with lovely coloring. At the obverse center, there is a splash of rose gold which is encased by a medium green gold border. The reverse is a more even greenish gold with very faint rose and orange splashes at the center. Popular as the final Quarter Eagle of the 19th century and one of only 27,200 pieces struck.

See Color Plate 4

321 **1901. Mint State 65.** Well struck and satiny with pretty rich green gold coloring on the obverse and reverse. The surfaces are very clean with an almost complete absence of marks which actually break the planchet. A much scarcer date in this grade than the 1903-1907 issues although it generally sells for little or no premium.

See Color Plate 4

322 **1903. Mint State 65.** Frosty and clean with glowing orange golden pale greenish coloring.

323 **1905. Mint State 66.** A superb satiny Gem with exceptionally clean surfaces, razor sharp detail and rich coloring.

Indian Head Quarter Eagles

324 **1908. Mint State 64.** An attractive, strictly original coin with deep greenish toning on the obverse and reverse.

325 **1909. About Uncirculated 55.** Natural deep color on the obverse and reverse.

SUPERB GEM PROOF 1910 QUARTER EAGLE

See Color Plate 4

326 **1910. Matte Proof 66.** Struck in the lovely Roman Gold finish which is characteristic of the Proofs of this year. An especially bold impression with a wire rim noted across much of the reverse and very sharp central details. The surfaces show no shiny spots or marks and are beginning to tone to an intense deep yellow gold coloring. While a total of 682 Proofs were reportedly struck, it is commonly believed that this represents a typographical error in the official Mint records. A total of 50 to 60 Proofs are known, which leads us to believe that the original mintage was around 200 pieces. The great majority of these pieces grade from Proof 60 to Proof 63. Examples of this quality are very rare.

327 **1910. About Uncirculated 55.** A nice quality coin for the grade. There is some unusual verdigris (removable?) on the reverse.

328 **1912. About Uncirculated 55.** Deep original coloring on the obverse and reverse.

329 **1915. Mint State 63.** Sharply struck and lustrous with very appealing semi-matte surfaces.

WONDERFUL GEM 1925-D QUARTER EAGLE

330 **1925-D. Mint State 66.** A fully struck Gem with absolutely no weakness noted at the edges. The surfaces are frosty and unmarked with rich orange gold coloring. The 1925-D is the most common date of this type in Mint State but examples of this quality are, like any date of this type, genuinely scarce.

331 **1925-D. Mint State 65.** A bit less sharply struck than the last coin with "inner rings" visible at the obverse and reverse borders. This piece has excellent lustre and nice coloring and it would make a most acceptable type coin.

332 **1925-D. Mint State 60+.** Weakly struck at the centers but otherwise a choice coin.

333 **1926. Mint State 65.** Sharply struck and with rich mint lustre on the obverse and reverse. Both sides show gorgeous orange, rose and greenish coloring.

334 **1928. Mint State 65.** Fully struck and frosty with even orange gold toning which is accentuated by a coppery spot adjacent to the Indian's nose. A more difficult coin to locate in this grade than is commonly believed.

335 **1929. Mint State 64.** A sharply struck borderline Gem example.

336 **1929. Mint State 63.** A bit weakly struck at the obverse center but sharp at the corresponding reverse. Frosty with nice surfaces and color.

Three Dollar Gold

CONDITION CENSUS 1855-S THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

337 **1855-S. About Uncirculated 58.** A much above-average strike for this date with the centers showing unusually bold detail. Struck in characteristic green gold with considerably frosty rose gold lustre in the protected areas; the obverse is somewhat prooflike while the reverse is satiny. The obverse shows some light marks in the fields as well as some friction on the high spots; the reverse is fully Mint State. While this coin has a very low mintage of only 6,000 pieces, it is one of the underrated and unappreciated of all the Three Dollar Gold Pieces. It is a subject of much debate among specialists if a piece exists which meets current standards as fully Mint State. This piece is easily of Condition Census quality and probably rates as the fourth or fifth Finest Known. In recent years, the only finer example which has been sold at auction is the unique Proof which we offered for sale in Auction '88.

EXTREMELY RARE PROOF
1856 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 4

338 **1856. Large over Small DOLLARS. Breen-6353. The reverse shows a large DOLLARS punched over a small DOLLARS. This smaller letters punch is from the reverse die of 1854. Brilliant Proof 65.** An absolutely superb example of this great rarity. This piece is unusually well manufactured for a Proof Gold coin of this era. Both the obverse and reverse are extremely reflective and show just the slightest amount of mint-made roughness surrounding Liberty's head. Both sides are overlaid with superb rich cloudy golden coloring. The underlying surfaces are entirely free of hairlines. An unknown but extremely small quantity of Proofs were struck. Walter Breen enumerates the existence of 5 distinct examples but one of these is impaired and the other has not been seen since World's Greatest Collection Sale of 1946. This piece appears to be the finest of the survivors and, obviously, is one of the most important pieces in this entire sale.

Formerly sold as lot 394 in Stack's Garrett Collection Sale of March, 1976 (the coin realized $21,000)

EXTREMELY RARE PROOF
1857 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 4

339 **1857. Brilliant Proof 65**. A lovely match to the recently offered 1856 and every bit as Choice in terms of quality. This piece is also extremely well manufactured with surprisingly reflective surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse display exquisite deep cloudy toning which favors pale greenish gold hues. The surfaces are free of hairlines. For the sake of future identification, we mention a small mint-made lint mark on Liberty's chin and another which is located above and slightly to the left of the 3 on the reverse. As with the 1856, it is unknown exactly how many pieces were originally struck. We believe that between 6 and 8 currently exist with one of these permanently impounded in the collection at the Smithsonian Institution. It is inconceivable that a finer example of this date exists or will be offered for sale in many years to come.

Formerly sold as lot 280 in the Eliasberg Sale and earlier in the collection of John H. Clapp.
Clapp obtained the coin from the William H. Woodin Collection which was sold by Thomas Elder in March, 1911.
This piece may possibly have also been included in the Parmelee Collection

VERY RARE PROOF 1862

See Color Plate 4

340 **1862. Brilliant Proof 65.** Very sharply struck in deep yellow gold. Both the obverse and reverse show nearly complete wire rims. Each side is extremely reflective with lovely orange peel texture. The shimmering surfaces are unhairlined and overlaid with splendid medium natural golden coloring. A total of 35 Proofs were struck of which 15 or so are believed to still exist. Two or three of the survivors are permanently impounded in institutional collections and at least two or three others are severely impaired. This coin is certainly one of the 2 or 3 finest survivors and we do not believe that a finer example will be offered for sale at public auction for a number of years to come.

Formerly sold as lot 401 in Stack's Garrett Collection Sale of March, 1976.
This piece was part of an original 1862 Proof Gold Set

**REMARKABLE 1863 BUSINESS STRIKE—
ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN**

See Color Plate 4

341 **1863. Mint State 67. An absolutely amazing coin!** Very sharply struck from somewhat clashed dies. The surfaces are exceedingly lustrous and display glorious light orange gold coloring with splashes of rich rosy frost. Unlike virtually all known examples of this date, this piece shows just a few mint-made striations; most of which are on the obverse and none of which are at all detracting. The strike deserves special attention as it is one of the few pieces known which shows almost full definition of the hair below IBE in LIBERTY as well as full wire rims on both the obverse and reverse. Even under careful magnification, the surfaces are pristine. A total of 5,000 business strikes were produced and Mint State survivors are very rare. As David Akers pointed out in his session of Auction '88, there are only a handful of superb pieces known to exist. This particular coin has been the subject of some confusion as to its pedigree. After careful plate matching, we can conclusively state this is the famous Gilhousen example. This fact means that there are 4 (and not 5) Gems known. We had the opportunity to carefully examine the Marty Haber example which was sold as lot 844 in Auction '88 and which was later graded Mint State 66 by NGC. We feel that this piece is very slightly better in terms of overall quality due to the fact that its clash marks and striations are less pronounced and its coloring is slightly more attractive. We have not seen the other two Gems of this date but we seriously doubt that either one of these coins are of the quality of this piece. The Haber coin realized $82,500 and sold to one of the most knowledgeable dealers in the United States. This particular coin may well set a record price for the date and it is not inconceivable that it may require a six-figure bid to become the new owner of this impressive and important 1863 Three Dollar Gold Piece.

*Formerly sold by us in our February, 1973 Gilhousen sale. Purchased by Paramount and then sold to Fred Davies.
Then sold as lot 519 in the Davies-Niewoehner Collection Sale of February, 1975.
Then offered as lot 127 in the 1979 ANA sale where purchased by the present consignor for $24,000.
The owner of the Gilhousen Collection (Edwards H. Metcalf) considered this coin to be one of the highlights of his incredible United States gold coin collection*

VERY RARE GEM PROOF 1864

See Color Plate 4

342 **1864. Normal date. Brilliant Proof 65.** This is one of the most beautiful Proof Three Dollar Gold Pieces of any date which we have ever seen or sold. It is struck in rich sea green yellow gold and has incredibly reflective surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse are virtually flawless with a total absence of hairlines and intense orange peel texture. When one considers how "delicate" the surfaces are on a Proof gold coin, it is quite remarkable that a piece of this age could have survived the ravages of time so intact. Of the total of 50 pieces struck, we believe that 12 to 15 of these exist. At least 2 these coins are permanently impounded and we know of at least 3 which are impaired. We fully believe that this is among the 2 or 3 Finest Known.

Formerly sold as lot 413 in Stack's Garrett Collection Sale of March, 1976

VERY CHOICE MINT STATE 1864
THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE

See Color Plate 5

343 **1864. Repunched 18. Mint State 64.** Extremely well struck with excellent definition noted at the centers; the obverse shows a partial wire rim. As on all known examples of this date, the planchet shows some mint-made striations but these are far less obtrusive than usual. Both the obverse and reverse display rich satiny lustre with medium orange gold coloring changing to light rose within the lettering and encircling the devices. The surfaces are quite clean with just a few tiny marks noted; the most prominent of these is located just to the left of the 1 in the date. With a total mintage of 2,630 coins, this Civil War issue is one of the rarer dates of this denomination. In Mint State the 1864 is especially rare and this coin very probably qualifies at the tail end of the Condition Census.

**EXCEPTIONAL GEM 1865—
PROBABLY THE FINEST KNOWN**

See Color Plate 5

344 **1865. Original with low, level date. Mint State 65.** Extremely well struck with very sharp centers and partial wire rims. Satiny and somewhat prooflike with magnificent orange gold toning which deepens to a pale coppery shade at the obverse border and at the reverse center. The surfaces are remarkably clean with a virtual absence of marks which actually break the planchet. This is an extremely rare date in any grade with an original mintage of just 1,140 business strikes. We believe that only 75 pieces or so are known in all grades with most of these in the Very Fine to Extremely Fine range. Only four strictly Mint State examples are known to exist, with one of these pieces barely qualifying as such. The only comparable 1865 business strike Three Dollar Gold Piece of which we are aware was the piece which was sold at the 1986 FUN Sale. We had the opportunity to carefully examine that piece and we believe that this particular coin is a bit choicer overall. Thus, we feel that this is **the Finest Known 1865 business strike Three Dollar Gold Piece.** A beautiful match to the recently offered 1863; if kept together, these two coins could form the cornerstone of an incomparable collection.

Formerly sold as lot 407 in Rarcoa's session of Auction '81 where it realized $26,000

ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN 1866 BUSINESS STRIKES

See Color Plate 5

345 **1866. Mint State** 66. A somewhat above-average strike for the date with just the slightest amount of weakness noted on the hair strands below IBE in LIBERTY and on the corresponding reverse. The surfaces are intensely lustrous with far fewer obtrusive striations than normally seen on examples of this date and era. Both the obverse and reverse are toned to a rich orange gold with splashes of splendid coppery coloring at the lower obverse and the upper reverse. The surfaces are exceedingly clean and show remarkable vibrancy. In Mint State, this date is not as rare as the 1863-1865 issues. This is due to the fact that a tiny hoard surfaced during the 1985 ANA Convention. However, all of these pieces graded Mint State 60 to Mint State 63 and Gems are exceedingly rare with only 2 or 3 other examples known to exist.

Acquired by the consignor from Steve Ivy, via private treaty, in May, 1977

CHOICE UNCIRCULATED 1868

See Color Plate 5

346 **1868. Mint State 63.** Quite sharply struck and frosty with slightly prooflike reflectiveness noted below. Rich orange gold coloring changes to a pale green gold at the obverse border. The obverse shows a few scattered marks in the field while the reverse is extremely Choice and of Gem quality. A total of 4,850 business strikes were produced with a few hundred of these pieces still in existence. Most 1868 Three Dollar Gold Pieces grade Very Fine to About Uncirculated and Mint State examples are, as one might expect, quite rare.

ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN BUSINESS STRIKE 1872 THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECES

See Color Plate 5

347 **1872. Mint State 65.** Almost fully prooflike but with some areas of mint frost in the fields. Struck in deep yellow gold and with superb coloring. The surfaces are almost flawless with no appreciable marks which enter into the planchet. As on all known business strikes of this date, the reverse shows a network of raised die scratches; these are mint-made and should not be considered a detracting feature. A few pale coppery toning spots behind Liberty's head serve as immediate identification. A total of only 2,000 business strikes were produced and Mint State examples of this date are very rare and underrated. Approximately half a dozen Choice Mint State examples exist with this piece certainly comparing favorably to any of them. We have not sold a finer business strike 1872 Three Dollar Gold Piece since our February, 1977 Sale.
Formerly sold in New England's July, 1976 Sale; earlier offered as lot 528 in Paramount's February, 1975 Sale

348 **1878. Mint State 64.** Very well struck and frosty with attractive medium orange gold coloring which changes to rose and pale green. The surfaces show a few light marks but are far above-average. This is the only readily obtainable Three Dollar Gold Piece in this grade and, as such, it is habitually chosen for inclusion in type sets.

349 **1878. Mint State 63.** Very sharply struck and frosty with attractive orange gold coloring which changes to a rich coppery rose at the borders. The surfaces are very clean with just a few small, shallow marks noted to the naked eye. Another nice piece for the type collector.

See Color Plate 5

350 **1888. Mint State 65.** A very bold impression which is struck in deep orange gold. The obverse and reverse are very frosty and exhibit lovely coloring. The surfaces are very clean and this piece has excellent "eye appeal." This is the only 1880's Three Dollar Gold Piece which is seen with any degree of regularity in the upper ranges of Mint State. While it is considerably more difficult to obtain than the 1878, the 1888 generally sells for a "type coin" price.

Four Dollar Gold

1880 FLOWING HAIR STELLA IN ALUMINUM

See Color Plate 5

351 **1880. Flowing Hair Stella. Judd-1659. Rarity-8; only 2 or 3 examples are known to exist. Aluminum. Reeded Edge. Gilded. 3.82 grams. Brilliant Proof** 63. Sharply struck and with an extremely pleasing appearance. The gilding process was done at the Mint and with the utmost of care as the underlying surfaces show none of the disturbances typically seen on coins of this sort. A tiny lint mark above Liberty's lowest haircurl serves as immediate identification. Aluminum examples of this issue are actually quite a bit rarer than their more celebrated gold counterparts, although, obviously, they are worth much less. Either 2 or 3 examples are known to exist; one was part of the Johns Hopkins Collection and was sold as part of a 4 coin set by Stack's in their March, 1976 sale. That piece was not gilded. The only other known example was at one time owned by F.C.C. Boyd and, possibly, may later have been in the collection of Fred Olsen. That piece has not been seen in close to 50 years. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that a single specimen has been offered for sale at public auction in over half a century. An extremely important opportunity for the Pattern collector.

Half Eagles

The selection of Half Eagles in this sale includes a number of extremely rare and important pieces.

Early Half Eagles include Choice Uncirculated examples of the 1803, 3 over 2, and 1811. The quartet of rare Capped Head to Left issues, most of which are lovely Uncirculated issues, include an 1819, 1820, 1825, 5 over 1 and 1826. Important Liberty Head issues include a Choice Uncirculated 1843-D, one of the Finest Known 1872's, a Gem Proof 1898 and a number of nice quality Uncirculated pieces for the type collector.

A number of superb and rare Indian Head Half Eagles are featured. Foremost among these are Mint State 65 examples of the 1908-S, 1910-S, 1912-S, 1914-D and the 1916-S.

SUPERB 1803, 3 OVER 2 HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

352 **1803, 3 over 2. Mint State 64.** An absolutely superb coin with an extremely sharp strike and wonderful satiny mint lustre on the obverse; the reverse is somewhat prooflike. The obverse displays medium greenish gold coloring which deepens very slightly at the left edge; the reverse is covered with exquisite rich green gold color which changes to a medium coppery shade at the center. The surfaces are extremely clean with just a few tiny marks visible in the obverse fields; the reverse is absolutely superb. While not a really rare date, any Capped Bust to Right Half Eagle of this quality is genuinely rare and in considerable demand among type collectors. This is one of the nicer examples which we have had the pleasure of selling at auction in many years.

CHOICE UNCIRCULATED
1811 SMALL 5 HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

353 **1811. Small 5. Mint State 63.** Extremely well struck with both the centers and borders showing full detail. What makes this coin particularly pleasing is its superb coloring. The obverse is a very rich deep green with some splashes of orange coloring at the date and the stars at the right; the reverse is a lighter green gold with a dusting of orange coloring at the center. The surfaces are extremely clean with just a few tiny mint-made adjustment marks located on the obverse rim from 5:30 to 8 o'clock. This piece represents outstanding quality for both the grade and the type.

EXTREMELY RARE 1819 HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

354 **1819. Close Date; "Normal" Reverse. Mint State 60.** An exceptional example of this great rarity. According to most experts on the series, as well as our comprehensive research, between 15 and 20 examples of the 1819 Half Eagle exist. There are three specific varieties of this date: The 5 D/50 Reverse, the Wide Date with Normal Reverse and this particular variety. We feel that this may be the rarest of the three with as few as 5 to 6 distinct specimens traced. This particular example is extremely well struck with just the slightest amount of weakness noted on the back curls. It is frosty and its very clean surfaces are complimented by superb pale orange gold toning with a few small coppery toning spots located about the reverse. Under strong magnification, we note a few fine hairlines but when one considers the excessive rarity of this coin (as well as its exquisite appearance) these are truly irrelevant. In his comprehensive *Encyclopedia of United States Coins,* Walter Breen was able to trace only 3 distinct examples of the 1819 Close Date Half Eagle. This coin is, by a large margin, the finest of the 3. In addition, it has a remarkable pedigree which dates back over a century. In its last auction appearance (in 1976) this piece realized $34,000. In today's market, where rarity is once again being appreciated and rewarded, this fantastic coin should bring considerably more.

Formerly Lot 2936 in Stack's 1976 ANA Sale, earlier in Stack's Dr. Clifford Smith and Davis-Graves Sales; earlier in the collection of R. Coulton Davis, who purchased it from John Haseltine in the 1881 sale of his collection

A SUPERB 1820 HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

355 **1820. Square Base 2; Large letters reverse. Mint State 60+.** An incredibly attractive example of this rarity. The strike is quite sharp with most of the fine details plainly visible as well as sharp denticles on both the obverse and reverse. This piece deserves particular praise for its rich satiny lustre and exquisite light green gold coloring. The surfaces are quite clean with just a few unobtrusive small marks scattered about. While this particular date is nowhere near as rare as the recently offered 1819, it is still a legitimate rarity in any grade. We estimate that a total of 40 to 50 1820 Half Eagles are known; this constitutes the total population of the 3 known varieties. Of these coins, most grade Uncirculated or thereabouts. This particular example is certainly far above-average as it displays no damage and has retained its original appearance. A very important coin for both the type collector and for the specialist.

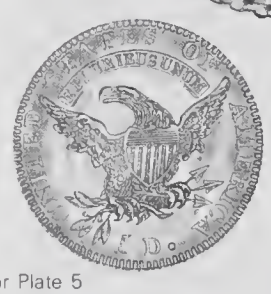
VERY RARE 1825, 5 OVER 1 HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

356 **1825, 5 over 1. About Uncirculated 50.** Quite sharply struck and, as with most examples of this variety, displaying virtually full prooflike reflectiveness. Both the obverse and reverse have toned to an extremely pleasing rich orange and green hue with an identifying coppery toning spot at 12:30 o'clock on the obverse. The obverse fields show some light handling marks and there is a small mark on the upper part of the jaw; the reverse is extremely clean and is actually quite close to full Mint State. It is probable that this coin was only in circulation for an extremely short period of time and it certainly offers a strong claim to the "choice" category. This date rates as one of the most unappreciated single issues in the fabled date run of 1820's Half Eagles. In his reference work on Half Eagles, David Akers estimates that between 35 and 40 examples are known to exist. However, the number of auction appearances of this date over the past few decades suggests that Akers' estimate appears to be somewhat on the liberal side. We feel that the actual number known is probably closer to 25 or 30 known; most of these grade Extremely Fine to About Uncirculated and this particular coin is certainly among the finest currently available. Another very important Capped Head to Left Half Eagle for the advanced collector.

Formerly sold as Lot 374 in Pine Tree's June, 1975 sale where it realized $8,500; believed to earlier have been Lot 2098 in B. Max Mehl's Dunham Sale of 1941

VERY RARE GEM UNCIRCULATED
1826 HALF EAGLE



See Color Plate 5

357 **1826. Mint State 65.** Formerly sold as Lot 1930 in Paramount's session of Auction '82 and accurately described there as follows: "A lustrous, frosty gem with superb orange and gold toning. The coin is very sharply struck on the reverse but there is a little softness in the haircurls around Miss Liberty's face. All of the obverse stars have their full radial lines. The surfaces of the coin are very clean with only a few small and widely scattered contact marks and faint hairlines. From an overall appearance standpoint, this coin is really excellent. The 1826 is certainly a very rare date with only an estimated 30 to 35 examples known. It is much more rare than many dates of this rare type including the 1813, 1814, 4 over 3, 1818, 1820, 1823 and 1825, 5 over 1. It is only a little less rare than the 1821 and 1824. This beautiful coin is one of the Finest Known examples and is the highest quality 1826 to appear at auction since the gem in our 1978 Grand Central Sale realized $19,000." In its last auction appearance, this coin realized $17,500. One must realize that this price was garnered at the very bottom of the rare coin market. Today, this coin should be worth considerably more.

Liberty Head Half Eagles

VERY RARE CHOICE UNCIRCULATED 1843-D HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

358 **1843-D. Large D. Mint State 63.** Struck from a rusty obverse die as are all known examples of this variety. An extremely sharp impression with exquisite rich green gold coloring. Very lustrous with slightly prooflike tendencies. The surfaces are extremely clean with just a few small marks noted; the most prominent of these is located directly above the top of the eagle's neck and extends upward towards the bottom of the second S in STATES. From an aesthetic standpoint, this is one of the most attractive Dahlonega Half Eagles of any date which we have ever seen. In Mint State, the 1843-D is a strong Rarity-7 with approximately 7 or 8 known to exist. We have never seen an example of this date which had as much eye appeal as this coin.
Formerly sold as Lot 318 in Stack's December, 1969 sale

EXTREMELY RARE SUPERB GEM BUSINESS STRIKE 1872 HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

359 **1872. Mint State 65.** Almost fully prooflike but an unquestionable business strike as evidenced by considerable amounts of mint frost within the surfaces as well as the quality of strike. There is some weakness noted on the curls below IBE in LIBERTY and extending down towards Liberty's ear; this corresponds to the reverse. Both the obverse and reverse display wonderful rose and delicate orange gold coloring. The surfaces are exceedingly clean, especially when one considers how abraded the typical Half Eagle of this era is generally found. This date has an extremely low mintage figure of only 1,660 business strikes. It is very rare in any grade with a total population of probably no more than 35 to 40 coins. In the 1950's, a tiny hoard of Mint State examples was discovered and was quickly absorbed by the numismatic community. While we have not seen all of the members of that group, we seriously doubt if any of those pieces could be finer than the presently offered specimen. This is the finest 1872 Half Eagle which we have sold since our wonderful Gilhousen coin in 1973 and we believe that this piece may be the Finest Known.
Formerly sold as Lot 858 in Lester Merkin's June, 1971 sale

360 **1879. Mint State 65.** Sharply struck and somewhat prooflike with a beautiful blend of reflectiveness and mint bloom. This coin has great eye appeal on account of its rich orange gold color which is intensified by the presence of coppery iridescent splashes at the borders. This date is fairly easy to locate in the lower ranges of Mint State but examples of this quality are very rare and significantly underrated.

361 **1880-S. Mint State 60+.** Well struck and frosty with beautiful rose toning at the centers and deeper green gold color at the borders.

362 **1881. Mint State 60+.** Well struck and lustrous with excellent color and lustre.

363 **1881. Mint State 60+.** Very similar to the last coin in terms of its quality and appearance.

364 **1882-S. Mint State 63.** Frosty and with lovely rose and green gold coloring. The surfaces are above-average for both the date and grade; the reverse is extremely choice.

GEM 1885-S

See Color Plate 5

365 **1885-S. Mint State 65.** A satiny Gem with superb lustre and coloring. The surfaces are extremely clean with just a few minute marks visible. A very common date in the lower ranges of Mint State but surprisingly difficult to locate this choice. Of course, no Liberty Head Half Eagle is readily found in Mint State 65 or better.

366 **1894. Mint State 60+.** Frosty and well struck. The obverse shows some abrasions while the reverse is choicer. A somewhat underrated date in this grade.

GEM PROOF 1898

See Color Plate 5

367 **1898. Brilliant Proof 65.** A full cameo example with extremely heavy contrast noted between the heavily frosted devices and the mirror fields. Both the obverse and reverse are unusually brilliant and reflective. The surfaces are free of hairlines. This coin has absolutely marvelous eye appeal due to its very strong two-tone appearance. In our opinion, Proof Liberty Head Half Eagles of this quality are extremely underrated and are among the more difficult of all later 19th Century types to locate in Proof 64 or higher grades. A total of 75 pieces were struck of which approximately two dozen exist. This piece is certainly among the Finest Known.

368 **1899. Mint State 63.** Well struck and satiny with pleasing surfaces and coloring.

369 **1900. Mint State 63.** Frosty and original with light rose and green gold coloring. There are some marks on the obverse while the reverse is a bit choicer.

370 **1900. Double punched date. Breen-6773, late Die State with just the slightest amount of doubling noted on the base of the final 0.** Rare. **Mint State 63.** Frosty and bright with pale rose centers changing to orange gold at the borders. The surfaces are quite clean for the grade.

371 **1900. Mint State 60+.** A sharp impression in orange gold with the slightest touch of rose toning at the reverse center.

See Color Plate 5

372 **1901-S. Mint State 64.** The obverse is slightly prooflike while the reverse is frosty. Both sides are quite clean and display lovely orange gold coloring. A nice type coin.

373 **1901-S, 1 over 0. Fairly early die state with the upper right curve of the 0 plainly visible to the right of the second 1 in the date. Mint State 63.** Well struck and lustrous with an absolute minimum of detracting marks. Always popular as the only confirmed 20th Century overdate of this denomination.

374 **1902-S. Mint State 63.** Quite lustrous and with rich orange gold toning which changes to light rose at the obverse center. The obverse shows some marks while the reverse is cleaner.

See Color Plate 5

375 **1905-S. Mint State 64.** Semi-prooflike and very sharply struck. Both the obverse and reverse are very clean and display unusually attractive light orange gold overtones. This is a very rare and extremely underrated date in Mint State 63 or higher. In fact, this is among the nicer pieces which we have ever sold at auction.

376 **1907. Mint State 63.** Satiny and very slightly reflective with dusky orange gold coloring which is a bit deeper on the reverse than on the obverse.

377 **1908. Mint State 63.** Very sharply struck and lustrous.

Indian Head Half Eagles

GEM 1908-S HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

378 **1908-S. Mint State 65**. An extremely attractive example of this popular issue. Quite sharply struck in rich yellow gold with a hint of pale greenish coloring forming at the edges. The surfaces display lovely soft lustre and are virtually free of marks. A tiny coppery toning spot below the second T in STATES serves as identification. As David Akers has correctly pointed out, the 1908-S Half Eagle is actually somewhat overrated in the lower ranges of Mint State. However, it becomes rare in Mint State 63 and very rare in Mint State 65. This coin is certainly one of the nicer examples to have been offered for sale in some time. A coin which would fit into virtually any set of Indian Head Half Eagles.

VERY RARE GEM 1910-S
A CONDITION CENSUS EXAMPLE

See Color Plate 5

379 **1910-S. Mint State 65**. Very sharply struck with the centers showing full detail and with the mintmark completely defined. The obverse and reverse both display superb unbroken frosty lustre and are overlaid with beautiful light rose and greenish gold coloring. Even under careful examination, this coin shows an almost total absence of marks. The 1910-S is one of the half-dozen rarest coins in this series in Mint State. Virtually all Uncirculated examples grade Mint State 60 to Mint State 62. In Mint State 65, this date is extremely rare with probably no more than half a dozen examples known. A number of these Gem pieces are included in closely held private collections and will probably be off the market for many years. Thus, this Condition Census example may well be the finest 1910-S Half Eagle which is currently available to collectors.

380 **1912. Mint State 64.** Very well struck and lustrous with even orange gold coloring on the obverse and reverse. The surfaces are very clean with only a few very faint marks in the left obverse field keeping this piece from a higher grade. This date is quite common in the lower ranges of Mint State but it is rare and underrated in Mint State 64 and higher.

381 **1912. Mint State 63.** Quite sharply struck in rich orange gold. The obverse and reverse both display above-average lustre. The surfaces are lightly marked but this is a very pleasing coin for the grade. Definitely above-average for the date and a nice type coin as well.

382 **1912. Mint State 63.** Well struck and lustrous with natural deep coloring in the fields which contrasts the untoned devices. The underlying surfaces are clean with the exception of a few marks located at the upper reverse.

EXTREMELY RARE GEM 1912-S HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

383 **1912-S. Mint State 65.** Unusually well struck for this issue with the borders showing far less die deterioration than usual. The mintmark is plain to the naked eye although not particularly well detailed. The surfaces are very frosty and are enhanced with rich orange gold coloring. A small coppery toning spot above the 19 in the date serves as identification. This coin has extremely good lustre and is almost entirely free of marks. The 1912-S Half Eagle is one of the rarest coins in this entire series. Unlike some "condition rarities," the 1912-S is quite rare in any Mint State grade. The few Uncirculated which are ever offered for sale generally grade from Mint State 60 to Mint State 63. Full blown Gem examples are extremely rare with probably no more than half a dozen or so known to exist. This is the finest 1912-S Half Eagle which we have seen in a number of years. A very important coin.

384 **1913. Mint State 63.** Well struck and lustrous with very nice deep yellowish gold coloring which deepens to orange gold on the obverse. The surfaces are semi-matte in texture and show just a few unobtrusive marks. A difficult date to locate choicer than this.

VERY RARE AND GREATLY UNDERRATED GEM 1914-D HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

385 **1914-D. Mint State 65.** Very sharply struck with the centers and mintmark both completely detailed; the slightest amount of die deterioration has produced light "inner rings" at the peripheries. The lustre is intense and is complemented by medium golden coloring which deepens ever so slightly at the upper obverse. We note just a few marks which are shallow and do not detract from this coin's wonderful overall appearance. The 1914-D Half Eagle is a condition rarity which is overlooked by most collectors and dealers. Lower quality Mint State examples are occasionally offered for sale but are still scarcer than is generally believed. In Mint State 64 and better, however, this date is among the most difficult Indian Head Half Eagles to locate. This particular example is probably not all that far removed from the tail end of the Condition Census and should be of great interest to the advanced collector.

VERY RARE CHOICE UNCIRCULATED 1914-S HALF EAGLE

386 **1914-S. Mint State 63.** About an average strike for this date with the peripheries showing the characteristic "inner rings" and the mintmark little more than a "blob." The centers, however, are quite sharp with none of the typically seen weakness. The surfaces are quite frosty and display a pleasing medium orange gold coloring which deepens a bit at the edges. The surfaces are quite Choice for the grade with a few light contact marks visible, below magnification, in the fields. The 1914-S is a very rare coin in any Mint State grade. In Mint State 63 or better, it is one of the 2 or 3 rarest coins of this type. As this date is apparently unknown in Gem Uncirculated and of the highest rarity in Mint State 64, the importance of this particular coin becomes all the more obvious.

387 **1915. Mint State 60+.** Well struck and frosty with deep original greenish gold coloring on the obverse and reverse.

GEM 1916-S HALF EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

388 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** Very well struck with the mintmark showing above-average definition. The obverse shows a wire rim from 5 o'clock to 12 o'clock. Both sides are frosty and superbly toned with rich greenish gold and faint rose shadings. The surfaces are extremely clean with the obverse virtually unblemished and the reverse showing just a few tiny marks in the fields. The 1916-S is a bit less rare in Mint State than many of the other San Francisco issues of this type due to a fairly substantial hoard of high quality coins which was recently discovered in (of all places) El Salvador. Most of the coins from that hoard graded no better than Mint State 60 and 1916-S Half Eagles of this quality are very rare.

389 **1916-S. About Uncirculated 58** Well struck with the exception of the mintmark which is not fully detailed. Quite lustrous and with lovely rich rose toning at the centers and medium orange gold toning in the fields. Both the obverse and reverse show just the slightest amount of rubbing on the high spots. A very acceptable example of this popular date.

Eagles

A number of very important Eagles are included in this sale.

An 1841 in Mint Sate 63 is the rarest and most important of the Liberty Head issues. Also included is an extremely rare 1906-D, 6 over 5.

An outstanding run of Indian Head Eagles includes a Mint State 64 1907 Wire Edge, a number of gem 1907 No Motto, a magnificent Mint State 67 1908 With Motto, a Mint State 66 1911, two Mint State examples of the very rare 1911-D, a Mint State 65 1912-S, an essentially perfect Brilliant Proof 69 1914 and one of the finest known 1915-S, a superb Mint State 65 example. Also included are a number of especially pleasing common dates which should be of particular interest to type collectors.

BEAUTIFUL MINT STATE 1801 EAGLE

390 **1801. Mint State 60.** Extremely well struck with the centers sharp and with all of the denticles showing individual and complete definition. The surfaces are quite clean and overlaid with superb rich orange gold toning. The obverse is mostly frosty while the reverse tends a bit more toward semi-prooflike reflectiveness. This piece is notable for its strict originality and wonderful eye appeal. A splendid type coin.

Liberty Head Eagles

391 **1838. Very Fine 20.** Well struck in rich green gold and evenly worn. The surfaces show a few marks but are much cleaner than usual for both the date and for the grade. This is a distinctive two year type coin as, in 1839, the portrait was radically changed and the size of the reverse letters was reduced. Scarce and popular with a total mintage of only 7,200 coins.

SEMI-UNIQUE MINT STATE 1841 EAGLE

See Color Plate 5

392 **1841. Mint State 63.** An absolutely beautiful coin with as sharp a strike as on any Eagle from the Philadelphia mint in the 1840's which we have seen. Struck in lovely medium greenish gold and displaying radiant lustre. Both the obverse and reverse are slightly prooflike with the latter side a bit more so. The surfaces show a few minor abrasions with the majority of these clustreed in the left obverse field directly below Liberty's chin. The 1841 Eagle is a rare and underrated date in any grade. Generally, examples grade Very Fine to Extremely Fine. Full About Uncirculated coins are a strong Rarity-7 with fewer than **8** pieces known to exist. In Mint State, there are only 2 known pieces: this coin and the example which was sold as Lot 2148 by Bowers and Merena in Part II of their Norweb Collection Sale of March, 1988 and which realized $8250 in spirited bidding. We had the opportunity to examine the other piece and we feel that this particular coin is slightly finer. One of the most important Liberty Head gold coins in this sale and an unparalleled opportunity for the advanced specialist or for the connoisseur who appreciates genuine rarity.
Formerly sold as Lot 330 in Stack's December, 1970 sale; earlier sold as Lot 2210 in B. Max Mehl's Dunham Sale of June, 1941

393 **1891-CC. Double punched mintmark. Breen-7035** where described as "rare." **Mint State 63.** Quite sharply struck with blazing lustre on the obverse and reverse. The surfaces show some abrasions but this piece is much cleaner than the typical 1891-CC Eagle. As this is the only Carson City Eagle of any date which is ever available in Mint State, this issue is very popular. It should be pointed out that most of the known examples of this quality only grade Mint State 60 and Mint State 61. This piece is far above-average.

394 **1891-CC. Repunched mint mark. Breen-7035** where described as "rare." **Mint State 63.** A second Choice example of this popular issue. This piece is equally lustrous but displays rich coppery rose and greenish coloring. Like the last piece, the surfaces do display some scattered handling marks but are still much cleaner than usual. Another intriguing Eagle for the date collector, type collector or the specialist in Carson City coinage.

EXTREMELY RARE 1906-D, 6 OVER 5

395 **1906-D, 6 over 5. Breen-7089** where described as "extremely rare." **Mint State 60+.** In his *Encyclopedia of United States Coins,* Walter Breen describes this variety as follows: "Cross bar of 5 visible within top of **6.** Die doubtless prepared Fall 1905, not yet assigned to a mint, given one blow from a 1905 logotype while dies for 1905 coins were still being made, then heavier corrections from a 1906 logotype, only later shipped to Denver. Date central, heavily impressed, possibly to divert attention from the overdate." We have had the opportunity to carefully examine this piece below very strong magnification and we believe that it is a legitimate overdate. To the best of our knowledge, only 1 or 2 other examples have ever appeared for sale. An admittedly esoteric but genuinely rare coin.

Indian Head Eagles

A VERY CHOICE 1907 WIRE EDGE EAGLE

See Color Plate 6

396 **1907. Wire Edge. Mint State 64.** An outstanding example of what is, arguably, most beautiful. This piece is very sharply struck with almost all of the original wire rim visible on both the obverse and reverse. The obverse has the appearance of a Proof as it displays the thousands of microscopic granules as on matte finish gold coins; the reverse shows pronounced raised die swirls as usual. Both sides are overlaid with glorious rich yellow gold coloring. There is one small mark toward the top of the Indian's headdress; were it not for this mark, we would unhesitatingly call this coin Mint State 65—at the very least.

See Color Plate 6

397 **1907. No Periods. Mint State 65.** A beautiful, sharply struck example with particularly rich lustre and superb coloring. Both the obverse and reverse display a glowing orange gold coloring with a light splash of rose at the obverse center. The obverse is very clean while the reverse shows a few small marks on the eagle's right leg. A very pleasing coin which should be of considerable interest to either the type collector or the date collector.

See Color Plate 6

398 **1907. No Periods. Mint State 65.** This second Gem example is also very well struck and lustrous. It has intense orange gold coloring in similar hues and proportions, on both sides. The obverse is clean while the reverse shows a few marks which are hidden in the eagle's feathers.

399 **1907. No Periods. Mint State 65.** Very sharply struck in bright yellow gold. Extremely frosty with very clean surfaces with an outstanding natural appearance.

400 **1907. No Periods. Mint State 63.** Deep, dusky orange gold obverse coloring; the reverse shows a splash of unusual but original rose color at the center. The underlying surfaces are clean and lustrous.

SUPERB GEM 1908 WITH MOTTO

See Color Plate 5

401 **1908. With Motto. Mint State 67.** A remarkable Gem example which, at a quick glimpse, almost resembles a Proof. The strike is incredibly sharp while the surfaces display an interesting semi-matte and slightly granular texture. Adding to its eye appeal is lovely rich orange gold coloring which is slightly reminiscent of the hue which is found on Roman Gold issues of 1910. The surfaces are remarkably clean. The only significantly finer example of this date which we have seen in sometime is the incomparable Marty Haber coin which was sold in Auction '88.

See Color Plate 6

402 **1908. With Motto. Mint State 64.** A lustrous borderline Gem example with even light golden coloring. The surfaces are particularly clean with no detracting marks discernible to the naked eye. Any Indian Head Eagle, regardless of date, is desirable in this level of preservation.

403 **1908-D. With Motto. Mint State 60+.** Quite well struck with above-average lustre atop semi-matte surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse show pale rose coloring at the centers which deepens to a medium green gold toward the edges. Some scattered marks, which are consistent to the grade, are located on both the obverse and reverse. A rare and much underrated date in this grade.

GEM 1910-D EAGLE

See Color Plate 6

404 **1910-D. Mint State 65.** Fairly well struck for the issue but with the usually seen "inner rim" noted at both the obverse and reverse peripheries. The coloring and lustre of this coin are exceptional. Both the obverse and reverse are a pale rosy orange at the center and are strongly contrasted by rich green gold at the border. The obverse is superb and is almost free of marks; the reverse shows a few light marks clustered on the eagle's right leg and wing. A common enough date in the lower ranges of Mint State but a difficult issue to acquire as choice (or as beautiful) as this example.

WONDERFULLY TONED 1911 EAGLE

See Color Plate 6

405 **1911. Mint State 66.** While examples of this date are known with superb coloring, this piece has toning which must be seen to be believed. The obverse has a bright rose center which changes to an almost iridescent greenish gold; the reverse has possibly the prettiest toning we have ever seen on a United States gold coin with a stunning blend of rose and iridescent orange and greenish gold. Other than a bit of weakness of strike at the top of the Indian's headdress, this coin is virtually perfect. A truly beautiful piece which is worthy of a very strong premium on account of its coloring.

See Color Plate 6

406 **1911. Mint State 64.** Sharply struck and quite frosty with pleasing granular surfaces. Struck in even light greenish gold with a bit of deeper green toning splashed about the obverse and reverse. The surfaces are vibrant and quite clean. A nice type coin.

407 **1911. Mint State 63.** Sharply struck and lustrous with a basically similar texture to the last coin. This piece is struck in medium orange gold with a bit of rose coloring at the centers. For the grade, this is a Choice and attractive Eagle.

408 **1911. Mint State 60+.** Ever so slightly weak at the center but with decent overall detail. Satiny and extremely attractively toned with a blend of medium orange gold and rose color on the obverse and reverse.

409 **1911-D. Mint State 63.** A very impressive example of one of the rarest of all 20th Century United States gold coins. Quite sharply struck on both the obverse and reverse with the eagle's leg feathers showing nearly complete definition. Very frosty with even natural golden coloring. There are a few small marks in the left obverse field which can be easily overlooked with the naked eye; the reverse shows a series of tiny bagmarks below the tail feathers but still is, overall, quite clean. David Akers considers this to be the second rarest date in the Indian Head Eagle series, trailing only the 1913-S. The 1911-D is generally found well worn and even mediocre quality Uncirculated coins are very rare. In Mint State 63, this date is of the highest rarity. An extremely important coin for the date collector.

410 **1911-D. Mint State 60+.** A second example of this rare issue. This piece is also well struck although there is the slightest amount of weakness on the eagle's right leg. It has excellent frosty lustre which is blended with light to medium orange gold coloring. The surfaces show a few more marks than the last piece but the high spots are free from rubbing. An outstanding opportunity for the Indian Head Eagle specialist.

411 **1912. Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck and frosty with lovely rich orange gold coloring. The surfaces are quite clean with a few small marks noted at the centers; these are located, fortunately, in somewhat protected areas and, as a result, are difficult to see with the naked eye.

412 **1912. Mint State 64.** Quite well struck with an unusual granular texture; this was probably one of the final pieces struck from the die as it exhibits pronounced metal flow on both the obverse and reverse. Both sides display rather deep dusky greenish gold coloring with a few darker areas of toning at the left reverse border. The underlying surfaces are very clean. Much different in appearance than the other example of this date offered above but another very Choice piece.

VERY RARE GEM 1912-S EAGLE

See Color Plate 6

413 **1912-S. Mint State 65.** A very sharply struck example with the hair below BER in LIBERTY partially defined, good detail on the eagle's shoulder feathers and a sharp mintmark. The lustre is subdued but absolutely full and substantially above-average for the date. Overall, this is an extremely attractive example of a date which is notorious for being among the most difficult of all Indian Head Eagles to locate with any degree of eye appeal.

414 **1913. Mint State 63.** Well struck and satiny with attractive medium golden coloring. The fields are almost free of marks while the devices show a few small marks which are quite well concealed. While this date generally commands just a very small premium over such common dates as the 1926 and 1932, it is considerably scarcer in this grade.

415 **1913. Mint State 63.** Frosty and sharply struck with pleasing medium orange gold coloring which is accentuated by a splash of rose at the centers. As on the last piece, the majority of the marks on this coin are clustered in the not-so-obvious regions of the devices.

416 **1913. Mint State 60.** Sharply struck and satiny with a surface texture which is fairly reminiscent of the earlier Philadelphia issues of this decade. The obverse and reverse display nice natural color and were it not for a fairly conspicuous mark on the chin, this coin would have strong claims at a full Mint State 63 grade.

FABULOUS PROOF 1914 EAGLE

See Color Plate 6

417 **1914. Matte Proof 69.** Struck in a coarse sandblast finish with the facets very slightly larger than on the finish of the 1912 and 1913 issues. Extremely well impressed with partial wire rims noted on the obverse and reverse. The coloring is outstanding and the surfaces are nearly perfect with a total absence of shiny spots or hairlines. When we sold our September 1988 sale Lot 5657 coin, we felt that it was unlikely that a finer Proof example of this issue could possibly exist. It does. This piece is not only the finest Proof 1914 Eagle which we have seen, it rates as one of the finest matte Proof gold coins (regardless of date or denomination) known. The aforementioned Proof 1914 Eagle realized $44,000. This piece should command an even higher price. One of a total of 50 Proofs originally struck; only 20 or so still exist. This is the rarest single date of all the matte Proof Eagles struck from 1908 to 1915.

418 **1914. Mint State 63.** Quite well struck for the date with just a bit of weakness noted on the hair surrounding the face. The obverse shows bright satiny lustre with pale greenish coloring; the reverse is a bit more subdued in its appearance but it is also fully lustrous and has a similar coloring. The obverse shows a few marks while the reverse is very choice. The 1914 Eagle is a very underrated date in Mint State. Most Uncirculated examples grade from Mint State 60 to Mint State 63 and any piece choicer than the presently offered example is genuinely rare.

EXTREMELY RARE GEM 1915-S EAGLE

See Color Plate 6

419 **1915-S. Mint State 65.** Extremely well struck for the date with the hair surrounding Liberty's face fully detailed and with extremely sharp centers. This coin displays lovely frosty lustre with very appealing pale orange gold coloring. The surfaces are outstanding with just a few truly tiny marks visible below magnification. This coin is just a bit less choice than the Gem example which is offered for sale in the PCGS certified coin section elsewhere in this catalogue. When this coin was last sold, it was believed to be among the Finest Known. While a few other extremely Choice 1915-S Eagles have reached the market in the ensuing decade, this piece is still quite remarkable and would certainly be the highlight of nearly any collection of Indian Head Eagles.

Formerly sold as Lot 94 in Rarcoa's April 1975 sale.

The coin realized $3100 which was, at the time, a record price at auction for a 1915-S Eagle

420 **1926. Mint State 63.** Quite a pleasing coin for the grade on account of its excellent lustre and color. The obverse is minimally abraded and very Choice while the reverse shows a few light marks on the eagle's feathers.

421 **1926. Mint State 63.** Rich orange gold color is noted on the obverse; the reverse shows especially nice toning with bright rose centers framed by deeper orange gold and semi-iridescent coloring at the borders. The frosty surfaces are minimally abraded and this piece represents truly nice quality for the grade.

See Color Plate 6

422 **1932. Mint State 65.** An outstanding frosty Gem example with magnificent lustre and coloring. The appearance of the obverse is greatly enhanced by a splash of intense green gold color in the left field while the reverse is a blend of rose and pale green shades. The obverse is almost entirely free of marks while the reverse shows a few very light cuts which are hidden within the feathers of the eagle.

423 **1932. Mint State 63.** Well struck and frosty with above-average surfaces and excellent color.

424 **1932. Mint State 63.** Very similar in quality and appearance to the last coin. This piece, however, shows a few more marks on its reverse. There is an interesting incused star directly above the motto.

Double Eagles

425 **1851. Heavy date. Mint State 60+.** Very sharply struck in lovely greenish gold. The obverse and reverse are quite frosty and display far fewer marks than generally seen on Double Eagles of this type. Below magnification, we note a fine scratch to the left of the first 1 in the date; otherwise this is a Choice coin. The 1851 Double Eagle is rare in Mint State but it is slightly more obtainable than most of the other Type 1 issues. This is due to the existence of the Baltimore Hoard which was found in August, 1934. Included in this group were over 300 high quality Double Eagles; many of these were dated 1850 through 1853 and this is the source of virtually every known Uncirculated example of the 1850's.

ONE OF THE FINEST KNOWN 1852 DOUBLE EAGLES

See Color Plate 6

426 **1852. Thin date. Mint State 65.** An absolutely exceptional coin which rates as one of the finest Double Eagles of this type which we have ever seen or handled. Both the obverse and reverse display magnificent satiny lustre which is enhanced by marvelous orange gold and pale rose coloring. There are a few curious "shiny spots" on the obverse which are mint-made and are probably the result of grease having been present on the die at the time of strike. The reverse is absolutely exceptional with not a single mark visible to the naked eye. While a number of Mint State examples of this date are known (once again, these pieces trace their origin from the Baltimore Hoard), most of these grade no better than Mint State 60. We can not imagine that a significantly finer example of this date exists and we believe that this is among the Finest Known.
Formerly sold as Lot 836 in Stack's Amon Carter Sale

VERY RARE UNCIRCULATED 1870-S DOUBLE EAGLE

427 **1870-S. Mint State 60+.** A nice, sharp strike for the issue in light green gold with soft rose overtones. The obverse is very slightly prooflike while the reverse tends more toward frosty lustre. Both sides show some scattered abrasions but are far less heavily marked than normally seen on examples of this date. In fact, the reverse is actually quite choice. The 1870-S Double Eagle is a very rare and extremely underrated coin in higher grades. The typical example grades Very Fine to Extremely Fine and About Uncirculated coins are extremely difficult to locate. In full Mint State, this date is very rare with just a handful of examples known to exist. We are aware of only 2 or 3 really choice pieces and just one Gem, the example which was sold in the 1979 ANA Sale.

428 **1874-S. Normal Mintmark. Mint State 63.** A much above-average strike with outstanding lustre. The surfaces are quite clean and exhibit rich pale orange and greenish coloring. There are some light marks in the obverse fields while the reverse is extremely choice. The 1874-S, while not quite as rare in Mint State as the 1870-S, is still a very scarce coin in higher grades. When Mint State specimens are offered for sale, they are invariably riddled with severe abrasions. This piece is far above-average and would be difficult to improve upon.

429 **1876-S. Mint State 63.** A very sharply struck coin with outstanding lustre. Struck in fairly bright orange gold and with a splash of rosy toning plainly visible at the obverse center. As is the case with most Type 2 Double Eagles, this piece shows some abrasions on the obverse but has a choicer reverse. This is one of the more readily obtainable dates of this type in Mint State and, as such, it would make a nice piece for the advanced type collector.

SUPERB GEM PROOF 1890 DOUBLE EAGLE

See Color Plate 6

430 **1890. Brilliant Proof 65.** An absolutely superb Gem Proof! The devices are frosted and are afforded strong contrast by the reflective surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse have toned in an exquisite orange gold hue. The underlying surfaces are free of hairlines and display a very strong orange peel texture. A microscopic toning spot just past the seventh star serves as future identification. As most collectors know, Gem Proof Liberty Head Double Eagles are extremely rare regardless of date. This is one of the finest pieces (of any date) which we have seen. One of 55 Proofs struck; it is believed that only 14 to 18 exist with a few of these impounded and others impaired.

Formerly sold as Lot 3266 in the 1976 ANA Sale where it realized $7,250

VERY RARE 1892 DOUBLE EAGLE

431 **1892. About Uncirculated 55**. Mostly prooflike but with more than enough frost on the surfaces to convince us that this is a business strike. While the surfaces are free of any readily apparent wear, the obverse shows enough handling marks to force us to downgrade to About Uncirculated. The reverse is considerably cleaner and choicer. Both sides display attractive light rose and gold coloring. In his new Encyclopedia, Breen states that "possibly 16-20 business strikes survived. . . ." We believe that this estimate is much too conservative and the actual number of examples known is probably somewhere in the area of 50 to 60 coins. Nonetheless, this is a very rare and celebrated date that is missing from many advanced collections of Double Eagles.

See Color Plate 6

432 **1894. Mint State 63**. Very deep prooflike surfaces with the obverse, at first glimpse, resembling a Proof. Extremely well struck and with attractive coloring. The surfaces show a few light abrasions with most of these concentrated in the upper left obverse. An extremely impressive coin which, no doubt, was one of the first business strikes produced from this die pair.

433 **1895-S. Mint State 63**. Sharply struck and frosty with pleasing orange gold coloring. The surfaces are above-average for the grade.

434 **1897. Mint State 63**. A sharp, even impression in orange gold. The surfaces are satiny and lustrous with a moderate number of abrasions noted.

435 **1898-S. Mint State 63**. At first glance, this piece appears to be a superb Gem. Closer inspection, however, reveals some fine but unfortunate hairlines at the upper obverse. The reverse shows none of these hairlines and is fully of Gem quality.

436 **1898-S. Mint State 60+**. Lustrous and well struck with attractive color.

437 **1899-S. Mint State 63**. Well struck and lustrous with deep orange gold coloring and a dash of rose toning at the upper obverse center.

438 **1899-S. Mint State 63**. Well struck and frosty. The obverse shows faint orange and greenish coloring; the very choice reverse shows similar but slightly more extensive hues.

439 **1899-S. Mint State 63**. Sharply struck and lustrous with bright light orange gold coloring. The surfaces are clean for the grade.

440 **1899-S. Mint State 63**. A premium quality coin for the grade on account of its overall cleanliness, pleasing color and obvious originality.

441 **1899-S. Mint State 63.** Very similar in quality and appearance to the last coin. This example has an especially nice reverse.

442 **1899-S. Mint State 63.** Somewhat satiny with excellent lustre, nice color and above-average eye appeal.

443 **1899-S. Mint State 63.** Very sharply struck and frosty with vivid orange gold and pale rose coloring.

444 **1900. Mint State 60+.** Sharply struck with bright lustre. A Choice coin with the exception of a fairly obvious mark below Liberty's eye.

445 **1900-S. Mint State 64.** Very well struck and frosty with excellent color and surfaces. We note one tiny mint-made lint mark below the second 0 in the date; otherwise, this is an extremely Choice coin.

446 **1901. Mint State 64.** Well struck and lustrous with excellent color and surfaces. Until fairly recently, this date was quite rare and very underrated in Mint State. However, a number of these was included in the huge hoard of Double Eagles from El Salvador which reached the market in the mid-1980's. Specimens which grade higher than Mint State 63 are still scarce.

447 **1903. Mint State 64.** A frosty borderline gem with rich frosty lustre.

448 **1904. Mint State 65.** A truly beautiful Double Eagle with medium greenish gold coloring which is accentuated by somewhat deeper shadings toward the rims. The surfaces are frosty and lustrous and display a bare minimum of marks. An impressive piece for the type collector.

See Color Plate 6

449 **1904. Mint State 65.** Well struck and extremely frosty with pale rose and orange gold coloring. This coin has excellent surfaces and lustre. Another good Double Eagle for the type collector.

450 **1904. Mint State 65.** An extremely unusual coin in that the obverse is extremely deep prooflike and the reverse is frosty. Viewed solely from the obverse, this coin almost resembles a Proof! The new owner of this piece is getting "two coins in one" as the appearance of the obverse and reverse is so entirely different.

451 **1904. Mint State 64.** A very Choice borderline Gem with excellent color lustre and surfaces.

452 **1904. Mint State 64.** Frosty with delicate orange gold and greenish coloring. There are a few light marks on the obverse while the reverse is of virtual Gem quality.

453 **1904. Mint State 64.** A particularly attractive coin on account of its lovely coloring. The surfaces are very lustrous and show the slightest of marks.

454 **1904. Mint State 64.** Yet another very choice, original example. This piece has rich light greenish gold coloring atop choice, lustrous surfaces.

455 **1904. Mint State 64.** Well struck and very lustrous with nice surfaces and color.

456 **1904. Mint State 63.** A Choice coin for the grade with nice color and surfaces.

457 **1904. Mint State 63.** The final example of this date and another piece which should be of interest to the type collector.

458 **1904-S. Mint State 63.** The obverse is very slightly prooflike while the reverse is frosty. Both sides exhibit nice color.

459 **1904-S. Mint State 63.** The obverse shows some light marks while the reverse is choicer.

460 **1904-S. Mint State 60+.** Nice and frosty.

461 **1907. Mint State 64.** Very well struck and frosty. This popular final-year-of-issue is quite underrated in grades above Mint State 63.

St. Gaudens Double Eagles

462 **1907. Arabic Numerals. No Motto. Mint State 64.** Well struck for the issue with soft, subdued lustre below light greenish gold and rose toning.

463 **1907. Arabic Numerals. No Motto. Mint State 63.** Very well struck and particularly frosty. The obverse shows a few light marks at the center while the reverse is extremely choice.

See Color Plate 6

464 **1908. No Motto. Mint State 65.** Well struck with outstanding lustre, color and surfaces. While by no means scarce in virtually any Mint State grade short of perfection, this piece has particularly Choice eye appeal and, as such, is nice enough to be included in nearly any set.

GEM 1908-D NO MOTTO

465 **1908-D. No Motto. Mint State 65.** Very well struck and satiny with excellent color and surfaces. This piece is, in all probability, one of the many hundreds of examples which were uncovered in Central America a few years back. Unlike most of the examples in that group, this coin is not heavily abraded. We certainly have not seen all the coins from this group but, of those which we have seen, this piece is infinitely choicer. In the lower ranges of Mint State, the 1908-D No Motto Double Eagle is only moderately scarce. In this grade, though, it is quite rare and much underrated.

466 **1908-D. No Motto. Mint State 64.** Sharply struck with above-average lustre. The centers are a light rose and there are splashes of pale green coloring which become deeper toward the borders. A tiny toning spot opposite the B in LIBERTY serves as identification.

467 **1908-D. No Motto. Mint State 64.** About an average struck specimen with the slightest amount of weakeness noted at the reverse center. The surfaces are lustrous and overlaid with pale greenish gold coloring.

468 **1908-D. No Motto. Mint State 64.** Fairly well struck and satiny with light orange coloring which becomes just a bit deeper on the reverse. The obverse is extremely clean and nearly of Gem quality while there are a few light abrasions on the top of the eagle's feathers.

469 **1908-D. No Motto. Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck with bright satiny mint lustre on the obverse and reverse. The obverse is quite choice; the reverse is very nearly of the same quality. The appearance of this many 1908-D No Motto Double Eagles should be of great interest to the specialist in this series.

470 **1908-D. No Motto. Mint State 64.** Well struck and satiny with medium orange and greenish coloring. Interestingly, there is a partial wire rim noted on the obverse.

471 **1908-D. No Motto. Mint State 64.** Yet another strictly original, sharply struck example with good lustre and color.

472 **1908-D. With Motto. Mint State 63.** Well struck and lustrous with typical somewhat granular surfaces. Very lightly abraded and with pleasing color, this coin presents a good appearance for the grade. Like the 1908-D No Motto, most of the Uncirculated examples of this date which are currently on the market trace their origin to the aforementioned Central American hoard.

473 **1908-D. With Motto. Mint State 60+.** Very well struck and somewhat satiny; the surface texture is somewhat different in appearance than that found on the last coin. This piece has very nice color and the surfaces are much cleaner than one might expect on a coin of this grade. While no longer of great rarity in the lower ranges of Mint State, the 1908-D With Motto Double Eagle is still fairly difficult to find choicer than this.

474 **1908-S. Mint State 63.** Sharply struck with rich, satiny lustre. As is often seen, the reverse edge is very slightly beveled as the result of die deterioration. The surfaces are quite clean with no significant marks and are overlaid with medium rose and pale green coloring. An extremely attractive example of this very popular low mintage date. Only 22,000 pieces were struck and Mint State examples are quite scarce.

475 **1909. Normal date. Mint State 63.** Very sharply struck and satiny with beautiful greenish gold coloring. The surfaces are only moderately marked and this piece has an excellent, strictly "natural" appearance. While this date is very slightly overrated in the lower Mint State grades, pieces which grade Mint State 63 or better are very scarce.

See Color Plate 6

476 **1909-D. Mint State 63.** A fairly sharp strike for the date with typical subdued frosty surfaces. Struck in light orange gold with a touch of pale pinkish toning which is more obvious on the obverse than on the reverse. We note one tiny reverse rim bump at 7 o'clock which is easily overlookable. A scarce issue in this grade.

477 **1909-D. Mint State 64.** A splendid borderline Gem example which is well struck and quite lustrous. The coloring, a light rose and green blending, greatly enhances the appearance. The surfaces are very clean as well. A legitimately rare date in this grade and an issue which is almost impossible to find choicer.

478 **1909-S. Mint State 64.** Well struck with nice lustre and surfaces. This piece has very pleasing rich rose and subtle green shadings, in different configurations, on the obverse and reverse.

479 **1909-S. Mint State 64.** Sharply struck and lustrous with extremely attractive coloring. This piece is very similar in terms of overall quality and appearance to the last example offered.

480 **1909-S. Mint State 64.** An unusual coin in that the lustre is quite frosty; usually, examples of this date have a more subdued, satiny finish. Both the obverse and reverse are quite clean with the former side being of virtual Gem quality. An outstanding Double Eagle.

481 **1909-S. Double punched mintmark. Breen-7375** where described as "very rare." **Mint State 64.** Sharply struck and satiny with a touch of pale rose toning on the obverse; there is a bit of lovely sea green coloring below DOLL in DOLLARS on the reverse.

482 **1909-S. Mint State 63.** A more "typical" piece in terms of its appearance. This satiny example shows just a bit of weakness at the upper reverse center but is otherwise very pleasing with nice color and surfaces.

483 **1910-D. Mint State 63.** Well struck and satiny with beautiful coloring. The obverse is very Choice with just a few scattered marks noted; the reverse shows some minor abrasions at the center.

See Color Plate 7

484 **1911-D. Mint State 65.** Well struck with superb satiny Mint lustre. The obverse and reverse are a blend of light rose and deeper greenish shadings. The surfaces are extremely clean and this piece has excellent eye appeal, even for this date.

485 **1911-D. Mint State 64.** Another beautiful example of this popular date. This piece is a bit frostier than the last and it displays very rich orange gold shadings on the obverse and, to a lesser extent, on the reverse.

486 **1911-D. Mint State 63.** Quite frosty with a splash of superb deep orange toning in the right obverse field. The obverse is very Choice and virtually of Gem quality while the reverse shows some marks at the center.

RARE CHOICE 1912 DOUBLE EAGLE

See Color Plate 7

487 **1912. Mint State 64.** Well struck with rich frosty lustre. The centers are a light pink hue and this is framed by deeper greenish tints at the edges. The surfaces show some minor marks which are consistent to the grade. This date is rare and very underrated in Mint State. It is comparable in overall rarity to the 1911 and 1913 and very nearly as rare as the 1915. Most Uncirculated examples grade Mint State 60 to Mint State 63. Examples of this quality are very infrequently offered for sale.

488 **1912. Mint State 63.** Well struck and frosty with even light yellow gold coloring. There are a few light marks on the obverse while the reverse is choice. A pleasing coin for the grade and certainly an above-average specimen for the date.

489 **1912. Mint State 60.** Well struck and frosty with a slight satiny texture noted on the upper obverse. The lustre and coloring are excellent but we do note some fairly conspicuous marks at the reverse center.

490 **1914. Mint State 63.** Well struck with much above-average frosty mint lustre. Struck in medium yellow gold with a touch of pale greenish toning. The surfaces are only moderately abraded and the piece has superior eye appeal for the date and grade. A rare coin in Mint State 63 or better as most Uncirculated 1914 Double Eagles grade Mint State 60 to Mint State 62.

491 **1914-D. Mint State 63.** Well struck with lovely satiny lustre below even rose orange coloring. The obverse is extremely choice while the reverse shows a few tiny marks hidden in the eagle's feathers.

492 **1914-S. Mint State 63.** Well struck and satiny with good lustre. For the grade, the quality of the surfaces is quite pleasing and were it not for one small mark at the M in AMERICA, this coin would have claims to a higher grade.

See Color Plate 7

493 **1915-S. Mint State 65.** A beautiful Gem example which shows an unusually sharp strike and rich frosty lustre. Both the obverse and reverse have toned in a fairly deep and very attractive orange gold shade with the slightest touch of pale rose green at the centers. The 1915-S is a very easy date to locate in all grades up to and including Mint State 64 but, in our opinion, it is scarce and significantly underrated in Mint State 65.

494 **1915-S. Mint State 64.** Bright, frosty lustre clings to attractive pale greenish gold surfaces. Both the obverse and reverse are very lightly marked and this piece has an excellent appearance.

495 **1915-S. Mint State 64.** Well struck and mostly frosty with attractive color and surfaces.

496 **1915-S. Mint State 63.** Well struck and mostly frosty with attractive color and surfaces. We note one very fine scratch over the 19 in the date.

The following hoard of 18 1916-S Double Eagles comes from an original bag which was uncovered in the late 1970's. These pieces differ from the enormous group which was located in Central America in 1983 as they are considerably choicer and display excellent coloring. The collector, dealer or investor who is searching for an example or two of this popular date would do well to carefully search through the following pieces as they are extremely choice.

497 **1916-S. Mint State 66.** A superb, fully struck Gem with excellent color and frosty lustre. Both the obverse and reverse are extremely clean. While examples of this date are, obviously, fairly plentiful in the upper ranges of Mint State, pieces of this quality are not generally offered.

498 **1916-S. Mint State 66.** A superb Double Eagle with lovely soft orange gold and greenish coloring atop satiny and pristine surfaces. For the date, this coin has surprisingly good eye appeal.

499 **1916-S. Mint State 66.** Very sharply struck and lustrous with even medium orange gold color which deepens to a pale greenish tint at the edges. The surfaces are vibrant and extremely clean. A beautiful example.

500 **1916-S. Mint State 66.** Very well struck and beautifully toned with slightly deeper coloring than the previous three coins. A shallow mint-made mark on Liberty's arm keeps this coin from an otherwise possible higher grade.

501 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** Well struck from extremely lightly clashed dies. The centers are a pale rose gold and are contrasted by deeper toning at the borders. The obverse is extremely clean while the reverse shows a few marks on the eagle's feathers.

502 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** Extremely lustrous and well struck with glowing light orange gold coloring on the obverse and reverse. The surfaces are very clean.

503 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** An especially vibrant and lovely example with rich, unbroken frosty lustre below very pale orange gold coloring.

504 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** Another fully struck Gem example. This piece has a superb obverse with medium orange gold toning which changes to a pale copper hue above Liberty's head; the reverse shows a few marks at the center but has particularly nice color as well.

505 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** Frosty and nicely toned with a nice appearance. The surfaces are extremely clean with the exception of a small reverse rim mark above the F in OF.

506 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** Just a bit less sharply struck than the past few coins but still a very nice piece on account of its excellent lustre and coloring. The surfaces are extremely clean.

507 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** Sharply struck and frosty with glowing orange gold coloring. We note just a few small marks scattered here and there about the surfaces.

508 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** Satiny and very Choice with excellent color and surfaces.

509 **1916-S. Mint State 65.** This example has especially pleasing color with an attractive mixture of pale rose and deeper orange greenish shadings.

510 **1916-S. Mint State 64.** Frosty and well struck with a few small marks noted on the obverse; the reverse is of virtual Gem quality.

511 **1916-S. Mint State 64.** This borderline Gem is frosty and well struck. Both its obverse and reverse have a mixture of medium orange and pale greenish gold hues.

512 **1916-S. Mint State 64.** A nice sharp strike with good lustre and complimentary natural toning. There is an area of fairly deep coppery coloring at 2 o'clock on the obverse.

513 **1916-S. Mint State 63.** Well struck and unusually frosty for the date. Struck in superb deep yellow gold and with extremely Choice surfaces for the grade.

514 **1916-S. Mint State 63.** The final coin of this group and another piece with lovely color and lustre.

515 **1924. Mint State 65.** Fully struck and extremely frosty with superb rose and light greenish gold coloring.

See Color Plate 7

516 **1924. Mint State 65.** Sharply struck with soft frosty lustre and excellent color. A very common date but a very popular one; this piece deserves a premium on account of its overall cleanliness and pleasing color.

517 **1924. Mint State 64.** Frosty and well struck with nice surfaces. This piece displays magnificent deep orange gold coloring which changes to a light rose at the very centers.

518 **1924. Mint State 64.** Satiny and well struck. Both the obverse and reverse display medium greenish gold coloring which lightens at the centers.

519 **1924. Mint State 64.** A particularly lustrous example with just a few small marks noted atop the surfaces.

520 **1924. Mint State 64.** Another pleasing example of this date with good lustre and very pretty coloring.

521 **1924. Mint State 63.** An unusually clean coin for the grade.

522 **1924. Mint State 63.** Slightly reflective surfaces are enhanced by very bright and attractive golden coloring.

RARE VERY CHOICE UNCIRCULATED 1924-D DOUBLE EAGLE

See Color Plate 7

523 **1924-D. Mint State 63.** An excellent strike for the date with both the centers and the borders well impressed; the rims show just the slightest amount of beveling and virtually none of the die deterioration seen on many examples of this date. The surfaces display lovely satiny lustre below medium greenish gold and light rose shadings. There are a few very light marks noted on the obverse; the reverse is choice. The 1924-D Double Eagle is a very scarce coin in Uncirculated grades. For the most part, Mint State pieces are apt to grade no better than "62." Examples of this quality are quite rare and bona-fide Gems are almost impossible to locate. This piece is so attractive that it would fit into virtually any set of St. Gauden's Double Eagles.

524 **1924-D. Mint State 60+.** Just a bit less sharply struck than the last coin; this piece is somewhat weak at the obverse border from 6:30 to 8 o'clock due to die deterioration. The surfaces are quite lustrous with light orange gold coloring. While there are a few abrasions visible to the naked eye, none of these are particularly deep or obtrusive. This piece represents nice quality for the grade and above-average quality for the date.

RARE MINT STATE 1924-S DOUBLE EAGLE

525 **1924-S. Mint State 60+.** A reasonably sharp strike for the date despite a bit of weakness noted on the obverse border; a long, thin die crack joins the tops of all the letters in LIBERTY. The rims show almost no beveling as on most examples. The surfaces have rich satiny lustre and exhibit much more "flash" than generally seen. Both the obverse and reverse are a light to medium orange and are minimally abraded. While a few examples of this date have reached the market in the past few years, choice 1924-S Double Eagles are still very scarce. This piece is far above-average and it would be difficult to significantly improve upon.

526 **1925. Mint State 66.** A sensational frosty example with rich frosty lustre below beautiful orange gold coloring. Both the obverse and reverse are splashed with pale coppery shadings and are nearly free of marks.

527 **1926. Mint State 63.** Frosty and clean for the grade with nice color. The reverse shows some pronounced weakness of strike at the center.

MINT STATE 1926-S DOUBLE EAGLE

528 **1926-S. Mint State 60+.** An average struck specimen with the centers sharp but with a minute amount of beveling noted on the reverse rim. The obverse shows a bit of characteristic bulging within some of the stars. Both the obverse and reverse are extremely frosty and overlaid with especially attractive light orange coloring. This piece is very clean with most of its readily visible marks present on the obverse; the reverse is choice. Another scarce and popular late date mintmarked issue.

529 **1927. Mint State 65.** A great type coin on account of its lustre and coloring. There is a small obverse rim mark at 1 o'clock. The reverse is superb.

530 **1927. Mint State 64.** Very clean and frosty with nice color. The obverse is of virtual Gem quality while the reverse shows some marks.

531 **1927. Mint State 64.** A borderline Gem example which is frosty and attractively toned.

See Color Plate 7

532 **1928. Mint State 66.** An exceptionally beautiful and very frosty Double Eagle. What makes this coin so pleasing is its intense orange gold coloring which is plainly visible on the obverse and reverse. The surfaces are remarkably clean. While this is one of the 2 or 3 most common dates of this type, 1928 Double Eagles of this quality are not offered for sale with any great degree of frequency.

See Color Plate 7

533 **1928. Mint State 65.** Extremely frosty with an excellent strike and nice coloring.

VERY RARE GEM 1929 DOUBLE EAGLE

See Color Plate 7

534 **1929. Mint State 65.** A superb example of this rare issue. This piece is so sharply struck and frosty that at first glimpse it resembles a more common date such as a 1927 or 1928. The excellent appearance is complemented by light orange gold coloring which is a bit deeper on the reverse and, on that side, is accentuated by some light coppery areas at the eagle's tail feathers. The surfaces are very clean with just a few trivial marks. As is well known, virtually all of the original 1,779,750 1929 Double Eagles were melted. Today, approximately 100 pieces are known with probably half of these having been uncovered in a hoard which was located in England sometime in 1984. We have had the opportunity to handle a number of these "hoard coins" and this piece is much more attractive.

A SECOND EXAMPLE OF THE VERY RARE 1929 DOUBLE EAGLE

See Color Plate 7

535 **1929. Mint State 64.** Very well struck and lustrous but a bit less frosty than the last piece. This coin has a light rose tint at the centers which is contrasted by pale greenish hues which become a bit more intense toward the borders. The surfaces are quite clean for the grade with the obverse of virtual Gem quality; a few unimportant abrasions are hidden within the eagle's feathers on the reverse. An important coin for the specialist or for the collector of 20th Century United States gold rarities.

Commemorative Gold

536 **1903. Louisiana Purchase McKinley Gold Dollar. Mint State 65.** Very sharply struck and frosty with excellent surfaces and coloring.

537 **1903. Louisiana Purchase Jefferson Gold Dollar. Mint State 65.** A beautifully toned piece with both the obverse and reverse showing great natural coloring.

538 **1904. Lewis and Clark Gold Dollar. Mint State 64.** Very sharply struck and frosty with rather deep greenish coloring at the borders. An original, uncleaned piece and in demand as such.

539 **1904. Lewis and Clark Gold Dollar. Mint State 64.** Extremely frosty with slight semi-prooflike tendencies. Both the obverse and reverse are toned in a rich glowing orange gold and pale green hue.

The following group of Panama-Pacific Exposition Gold coinage is among the most significant and high quality group we have ever sold at auction. Included are 2 extremely Choice Rounds and 3 lovely Octagonals. These massive issues are the rarest and most impressive of all United States Commemorative Gold coins. Unlike so many of the known examples, these pieces are absolutely original and represent marvelous quality.

The collector who has been contemplating the purchase of one (or both) of these types is strongly urged to view these pieces in order to formulate a bid.

See Color Plate 7

540 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Quarter Eagle. Mint State 66.** Very sharply struck with excellent detail noted on Columbia's head. Both the obverse and reverse are extremely frosty and display particularly rich greenish gold coloring. An absolutely beautiful example of this popular issue and certainly one of the finest we have handled in somtime.

GEM UNCIRCULATED PANAMA-PACIFIC ROUND FIFTY DOLLAR

See Color Plate 7

541 **1915-S. Round. Mint State 65.** An absolutely magnificent example of this coveted commemorative issue. The cheek of Minerva is completly hairline-free and with no discernible marks on her helmet. The frosty Mint surfaces are satiny smooth and glitter with unbroken lustre. The rich gold orange mint bloom color adds further to its eye appeal. This is one of the finest examples that we have handled. Only 483 round "slugs" were issued, a majority of which show light handling marks. This ranks among the best.

See Color Plate 7

542 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Round Fifty Dollars. Mint State 60+.** This second example also represents far above-average quality for the issue. Both the obverse and reverse are quite lustrous and display attractive natural coloring. The obverse shows a few light slide marks on Minerva's cheek; these are found on the majority of examples of this issue and are the result of friction incurred when the coins moved around in their original case of issue. This piece, however, has a particularly nice reverse. An unprecedented second opportunity for the collector to purchase one of these rare, beautiful and massive issues.

OUTSTANDING PANAMA-PACIFIC OCTAGONAL FIFTY DOLLAR

See Color Plate 8

543 **1915-S Panama-Pacific Expostion Octagonal Fifty Dollars. Mint State 64.** A marvelous example of this coveted commemorative "slug." This beauty abounds with intense unbroken frosty lustre throughout. The edges, corners and surfaces are mark free. Minerva's cheek is frosty and cleanl completely free from hairlines, as is the helmet. Some ultrafine dielike swirl marks in the field before the nose of Minerva that can only be seen under strong magnification. The reverse is absolutely immaculate. This is a pristine example that glows with Mint bloom, color and lustre, and ranks among the most beautiful coins ever prodused. Rarely is such a premium quality example offered outside of a set. A mere 645 coins were struck.

544 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Octagonal Fifty Dollars. Mint State 64.** This premium example has wonderful frosty mint lustre which is complimented by superb rich natural coloring. The obverse is almost entirely free of the ubiquitous slide marks and shows just a few minute abrasions in the left obverse field; the reverse is almost of full Gem quality with rich lustre noted. A splendid coin which should be the object of numerous strong bids.

See Color Plate 8

545 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Octagonal Fifty Dollars. Mint State 60.** This third example displays a few faint slide marks on the obverse but is still a most attractive example for the grade. Both its obverse and reverse display full lustre below very attractive medium orange gold coloring. The reverse is particularly pleasing. A somewhat more affordable example than the last two pieces and, therefore, a coin which should also generate considerable bidder interest.

See Color Plate 8

546 **1915-S. Panama-Pacific Exposition Half Dollar. Mint State 66.** An absolutely superb example which comes from a recently broken up original set. This piece has the typical rich coloring found on original issues but is not quite as dark as generally seen. Both the obverse and reverse are frosty and incredibly clean. A superb piece which is destined for the finest Commemorative Half Dollar set.

547 **Panama-Pacific Exposition. Original 5 coin case of issue with the original printed descriptive card.** A very popular item and in demand.

548 **1916. McKinley Memorial Gold Dollar. Mint State 65.** A frosty gem with excellent color and surfaces.

549 **1916. McKinley Memorial Gold Dollar. Mint State 65.** Well struck and frosty with nice color.

550 **1916. McKinley Memorial Gold Dollar. Mint State 65.** A gem with slightly prooflike surfaces below rich original color.

See Color Plate 8

551 **1916. McKinley Memorial Gold Dollar. Mint State 63.** The obverse is slightly prooflike; both the obverse and reverse display very attractive coloring.

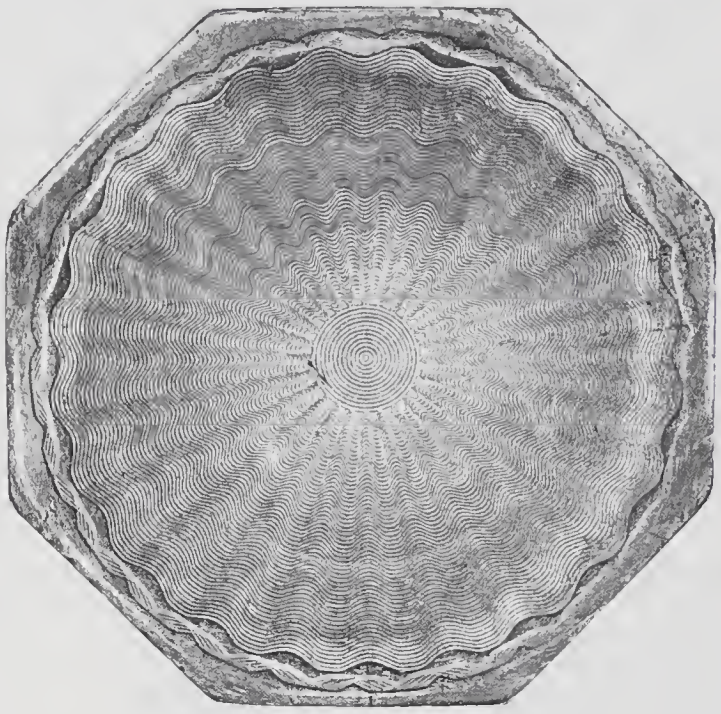
552 **1917. McKinley Memorial Gold Dollar. Mint State 65.** A lovely frosty piece with superb coloring. In this grade, this issue is rare and significantly undervalued. We note a faint mint-made lint mark on the second M in MEMORIAL on the reverse.

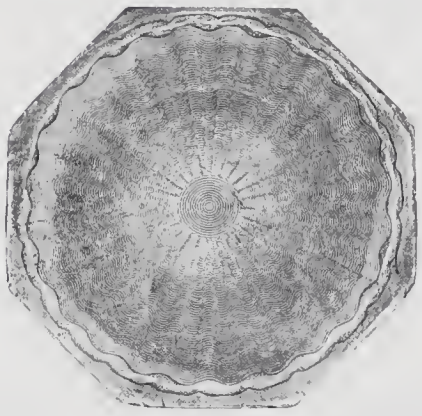
553 **1922. Grant Without Star Gold Dollar. Mint State 65.** Frosty and unmarked with attractive coloring.

554 **1926. Sesquicentennial Quarter Eagle. Mint state 60+.** Frosty and with fewer marks than generally seen on this issue.

Territorial Gold

SUPERB 1851 HUMBERT FIFTY DOLLAR SLUG





See Color Plate 8

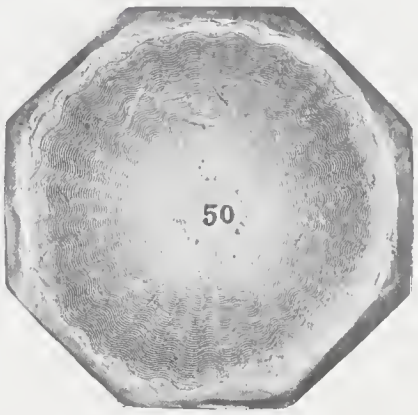
555 **1851. Fifty Dollar "Slug." Provisional Mint-U.S.Assay Office. Augustus Humbert, U.S. Assayer Under Moffat and Company. Kagin-2. .880 on label; without 50 on reverse. Mint State 63.** An absolutely superb coin which is one of the most attractive and high quality Territorial issues which we have ever handled. The obverse is actually somewhat reflective and covered with the most attractive orange gold and greenish color imaginable. There is one small reeding mark below the U in UNITED; otherwise this piece is nearly flawless with a total absence of the edge marks or severe surface abrasions which are inevitably seen on coins of this size and issuance.

This very historic issue has an extremely interesting background. It is struck in a fineness less than the standard .900 found in United States Federal Gold Coinage. The reason for this is that, in 1851, Augustus Humbert did not have available to him the technology to coin pieces of this fineness in enough quantity to satisfy demand. Therefore, he was forced to issue pieces struck from native gold and of fineness ranging from .880 to .887. This was compensated for by having a greater quantity of gold included which, then, would make his issues of full intrinsic value to those struck at the United States Mint. In 1852, the gold which Humbert received was significantly higher in fineness than the earlier deposits which he had been sent. So, from the end of 1852 onwards, his coinage was struck in the standard mint fineness of .900. Interestingly, the remaining alloy was silver; at the Philadelphia Mint, the alloy which was employed was copper. This is the reason why these coins have a much different appearance than, say, a Half Eagle or Eagle which was struck at the Philadelphia Mint at this time.

In our opinion, this is one of the most significant coins in this entire collection and it deserves to reside in the finest of collections.

Formerly sold as Lot 310 in Bowers and Merena's September, 1984 Sale where it realized $35,200

MINT STATE 1851 HUMBERT FIFTY DOLLAR SLUG



See Color Plate 8

556 **1851. Fifty Dollars. .887 on label; 50 at the center of the reverse. Lettered edge. Provisional Mint—U.S. Assay Office. Augustus Humbert, U.S. Assayer under Moffat and Company. Kagin-4. Mint State 60+.** A fairly late striking as evidenced by considerable areas of die rust on the obverse. This piece is extremely different in appearance. It is struck in fairly deep greenish gold and displays some areas of rich iridescent coloring on the obverse. Its surface texture is different as well. The overall quality of strike is extremely sharp with the eagle showing excellent detail even at its center. The surfaces are very clean with the only really notable marks present above 50 D. In higher grades, the .887 issues appear to be somewhat rarer than the .880 issues. This is the finest example which we can recall having seen in a number of years and it is certainly among the Finest Known. Truly a showpiece and a wonderful match for the recently offered example.

End of Sale

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